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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

ARMY GEN SHKADOV ON MILITARY 'EFFICIENCY REPORTS'

AU050651 Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 8 April 1986
(Signed to press 4 Apr 86) pp 19-25

[Article by Army General I. Shkadov, USSR deputy minister of defense for cadres and hero of the Soviet Union: "The Efficiency Rating--an important means of perfecting cadre policy"--passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] The programmatic directives of the 27th CPSU Congress are a powerful source for increasing the sociopolitical and service activity of army and navy servicemen in the struggle to enhance combat readiness and strengthen discipline. They clearly defined the goals, paths, and means of the further accelerated development of all spheres of state affairs. They thoroughly examined questions of perfecting the cadre policy as well as the most important economic, social, and defense issues.

The CPSU sees a careful attitude toward cadres, their correct placement, and effective education as one of the key conditions for successfully accomplishing all the tasks facing our society. "The party indissolubly links the enhancement of the level of the leadership of state, economic, and cultural building," the new edition of the CPSU program notes, "with further /improving work with cadres./ It deems it necessary for the Leninist principles of the selection and assessment of cadres according to their political, businesslike, and moral qualities to be rigorously observed everywhere, from the top down, and for public opinion to be more fully taken into account.

"In its entire cadre policy the CPSU will promote the nomination for leadership of politically mature, highly moral, competent, and enterprising workers drawn from communists and nonparty people..."

The increased requirements for the combat readiness of the armed forces and the interests of further enhancing their combat potential urgently dictate a need to thoroughly improve work with military cadres, which must develop in strict accordance with the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress.

Officers are justly called the gold mine and backbone of the Army and Navy. Precisely they are mainly responsible for reliably defending the motherland, effectively organizing military instruction, skillfully training and educating personnel, and strengthening discipline.

Our officer corps consists of ideologically staunch and highly skilled servicemen who are devoted to the party and the people. More than 70 percent of them have a higher military and military-specialized education. Practically all commanders of regiments, formations, and field forces and chiefs of political organs have a higher military education and high-level political, tactical, military-technical, and specialized training, which is up to the level of the development of military affairs, meets the requirements of modern combat, and promotes the enhancement of the role of officer cadres in military development. Of our officers, 90 percent are communists and Komsomol members.

One of the most important areas of work with military cadres is their periodic efficiency rating. The level of political maturity, professional training, and command qualities of officers are determined during it, and the styles and methods of their work and the dynamics of their service growth are analyzed. Then, on the basis of a thorough study of their political, professional, and moral qualities and the level of their professional, and moral qualities and the level of their professional preparedness, it is determined how to utilize them most effectively in the future.

During the previous efficiency rating period, certain commanders and chiefs unfortunately viewed this work as a short-term campaign whose meaning was reduced to just composing, reviewing, and approving efficiency reports. This is fundamentally incorrect. An efficiency rating includes a whole package of constant organizational and party-political measures whose basis is systematic and thoughtful individual work with officers. Therefore, during the preparation and carrying out of efficiency ratings and the implementation of their results, attention must be focused on the political, military, and moral education of officers, taking into account their work experience, level of theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and personal qualities. The main things is to make an objective assessment of the merits and shortcomings of the person being rated and his vital attitude, and on this basis correctly influence a person, help him critically comprehend what he has achieved, and make well-founded recommendations and conclusions.

As practice shows, it is not an easy task to give each officer an objective, thorough, and complete rating. After all, it has to do with an assessment of his ideological maturity and ability to regulate the life of a military collective within the strict framework of regulations and to develop in subordinates a constant readiness to defend the motherland with weapon in hand. It is also important to stress that the efficiency rating is called on not only to assess political and military training, moral maturity, the scope of specialized accomplishment, volitional qualities,

and organizational abilities of officer cadres today, but also to look to tomorrow and determine the prospective potential possibilities of people. In connection with this it is necessary that during assessment of the style of cadres' work, great emphasis be placed on the criterion that the party considers paramount in the current conditions. "The criterion for all advancement and transfers is one: the political and businesslike qualities, abilities, and real achievements of a worker and his attitude to people," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th party congress.

Fewer words, assurances, and promises, and more real deeds, practical results, responsibility, adherence to principles, teamwork, attention to people, and personal modesty--this is the essence of the party requirements for the work style and methods of every officer.

The efficiency rating is a serious examination of the moral qualities of officers, their ability to soberly treat the assessment of their activity by their service seniors, and make the correct conclusions from critical observations. On the other hand, it is an indicator of the objectivity and adherence to principle of commanders and chiefs, their concern for people, ability to correctly define the service prospects of subordinates, and, if necessary, assist them in eliminating any negative phenomena. I wish to particularly stress that every commander and officer is personally responsible for the objectivity of efficiency reports and the validity of the conclusion and recommendations stated in them.

The periodic efficiency rating of Army and Naval officer personnel will be held from 15 May to 15 November 1986.

It is necessary to note that efficiency ratings in a number of units and subunits have begun earlier than the aforesaid period. This is due to the fact that certain officers are leaving for new service locations in accordance with planned rotation or are being promoted to new posts. Commanders and chiefs who are leaving units before the start of efficiency ratings must prepare efficiency reports on directly subordinate officers well in advance and personally report on them to the senior commander (chief). Efficiency reports on officers who are leaving units before the start of efficiency ratings are written beforehand according to the place of previous service. They are examined, approved, and announced before their departure from units.

During the preparation of efficiency ratings most commanders and chiefs have more than once discussed with subordinates how they are enhancing their ideological-theoretical level, perfecting professional training, and the style and methods of practical activity, and how they are participating in party or komsomol work. And this is right. The usefulness of these individual talks is primarily that they stress officers' attention to the importance of efficiency ratings, promote the development

of positive qualities in people, and compel serious thought about shortcomings and eliminating them. The better and more regularly that this preliminary work is done, the greater the educational impact of efficiency ratings on officers and the more substantial their influence on enhancing their responsibility for fulfilling their duty.

It is important to remember that the nature of talks must be principled and at the same time well-meaning and comradely. Only through such an approach will the person being rated be more quickly convinced of the view that his work is being assessed objectively and without prejudice. This provides a person with a new incentive for self-improvement.

Commanders and chiefs who discuss with subordinates how they are expanding their cultural range of interests, what they are reading, and how they spend their leisure time are also acting correctly. This is very important, particularly for young officers who cannot always properly organize their free time, with benefit to the cause and to themselves.

Individual talks with subordinates by commanders and chiefs are an important form of their intensive study. During efficiency rating talks it is important to observe pedagogic tact. If one wants to bring out frankness in a person, one needs to be able to listen to him carefully and convince him with the logic of one's conclusions the error of certain of his judgments and actions. However, both in the period preceding the efficiency rating and during it, one should attentively analyze the manifestations of an officer's political, professional, and moral qualities directly in practical work. And primarily during exercises, flights, and naval cruises and during accomplishment of other missions of combat and political training. Moral-psychological steadfastness, decisiveness, tactical thinking, and other qualities that are so necessary for an officer in modern combat and in the process of instructing and educating personnel in general are most strikingly revealed precisely under complicated conditions.

Political organs and party and komsomol organizations are actively participating in ensuring the great effectiveness of efficiency ratings. They are striving to find their own forms and methods of impacting on the effectiveness of efficiency reports, giving an objective rating of the political, moral, and professional qualities of officers, stimulating their social and service activeness, and giving a principled assessment of shortcomings. In this period the particular attention of communist and komsomol officers in all party-political work is focused on a thorough and critical analysis of their activity and a reorientation of the psychology of their thinking and work style, taking into account the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress, and a thorough examination of questions such as their personal responsibility for the quality of instructing and educating subordinates and strengthening discipline. The 27th CPSU Congress laid particular stress precisely on the personal example of communists in their work and behavior.

"Every communist," the new edition of the party program stresses, "must be an example in work and behavior, in public and personal life. The strength of the party's links with the masses, its prestige among the people depends in large measure on how fully the /vanguard role of the communists/ manifests itself. The party will constantly raise the standards to which each communist is held in his attitude to his or her duty, for an honest and pure character of the party member, and appraise that person by work and deeds."

The communist officer who is being rated must receive a precise party assessment of his activity. This assessment must definitely be taken into account by the commander or chief when he is preparing an efficiency report on an officer, this being an important condition for the avoidance of subjectivism and one-sidedness. I speak of this because unfortunately individual commanders and chiefs are not distinguished by firm principles and at times are prepared to overstate an evaluation of their subordinates' qualities and to smooth over their shortcomings, or else to exaggerate their omissions due to personal antipathies. It is hardly necessary to say what serious harm unobjective efficiency reports do to the cause of correctly deploying cadres according to their political, practical and moral qualities. The very educational significance of efficiency rating is also reduced to nothing. The authority of a commander's assessment is thus reduced.

In the course of the last efficiency rating of officer cadres, proper significance was, in places, not attached to profound study of the political, practical, and moral qualities of those being rated. Many efficiency reports frequently suffered from an abundance of wordy cliches and standard formulae of the type of "knows the regulations, fulfills and applies them ably," "displays exactingness," "conducts classes regularly," "studies subordinates," and so forth. And the main thing--the real contribution which an officer makes to increasing combat readiness and strengthening military discipline--was left "to the cadre."

It was not possible, unfortunately, to avoid cases in which efficiency reports drew conclusions about the expediency of promoting officers who did not deserve this. For this reason there is no need to be surprised that, for instance, that Lieutenant Colonel V. Shevchik (Belorussian military district) and Major V. Krapivin (Transcaucasian military district), both of whom had been rated for promotion, were rapidly put up for transfer to the reserve and removed from their post respectively.

During verification, the cadre organs revealed such impermissible cases as those in which certain commanders and chiefs, for instance Lieutenant Colonel V. Prizyazhnyy, delegated the writing of efficiency reports to subordinates. And individual commanders proposed to lower-ranking officers that they write efficiency reports on themselves.

Analysis of the conclusions drawn from the last efficiency rating attests to the fact that in certain units skillful and promising officers who had been recommended for promotion remained in their former posts. At the same time it happened that an officer who did not possess proper practical qualities or the necessary professional training received promotion. Such practice deserves condemnation, since it does great harm to the cause of educating officer cadres. It is important to constantly watch over the fulfillment of the conclusions drawn in efficiency reports.

A considerable number of young commanders have recently taken over the leadership of battalions, regiments, ships, and formations. This is a natural process of development of the armed forces. Many of them will write efficiency reports on subordinate officers for the first time. For this reason, senior leaders must help such commanders and explain that in order to make an objective assessment of officers it is necessary to conduct a deep and comprehensive study of individual people and to take account of the opinion and assessment of the chiefs of political and cadre organs and of party and komsomol organizations, and also of their deputies and of chiefs of arms and services.

In an efficiency report, what questions is it necessary to reflect? It will be correct if the commander or chief shows how the person being rated knows the materials of the 27th CPSU Congress, how he understands our party's domestic and foreign policy, what practical conclusions he draws from this for his own service, how he raises his ideological and theoretical level, participates in party-political work, and relies on the party and komsomol organizations. The efficiency report must comprehensively reveal a subordinate's standard of vocational training and his practical skills, his organizational ability in his work, his willpower and other qualities, and his knowledge of the rules, regulations, and service obligations, and it must emphasize the sphere of activity in which the officer has displayed the greatest ability and achieved the highest results.

An assessment of the state of affairs in the work sector for which the officer being rated is responsible, and also of his exactingness toward himself and his subordinates, and of his principles, is of great importance. It is also necessary to speak about his attitude to the service, his ability to respond correctly to criticism and to exactly assess his own activity, as well as about such qualities as his sensitivity to the care for people. Neither can one omit such questions as those of the style of work of the officer being rated and of the degree to which he meets the demands which the party makes on the contemporary leader. A characterization of a person will be incomplete if it does not also speak about his authority in the collective, his behavior in everyday life, and the standard of his relations with his comrades.

If the efficiency rating is carried out in a profound and objective manner, then the conclusions drawn from it will serve as a reliable guideline for future appointment of the officer being rated. For this reason it is necessary that the conclusions reflect how the officer corresponds to the

post which he occupied and express an opinion about the most expedient service utilization of him in the interests of the cause.

There are, of course, questions which must definitely be reflected in an efficiency report. But the compilation must not be turned into a formal enumeration of an officer's virtues and omissions. A concrete person, with his positive traits and propensities and also his shortcomings, should be visible in the efficiency report.

This, for example, is how an efficiency report was written in 1925 on the commander of the eighth company of the 67th Kupyanskiy Regiment of the 23rd Kharkov rifle division.

"His willpower," the report stressed, "is developed to the highest degree. His mind is inquisitive and well-developed. He stands out among the regimental commanders in terms of energy and serves as an example. He is healthy and hardy. He has a good understanding of the situation, assesses it correctly, and is able to make strict, precise, and well-analyzed decisions....

"He is disciplined to the point of punctuality [punktualnost]. He is exacting towards his subordinates and the commanders. He enjoys authority and popularity among the commanders and red armymen.

"He has a firm and wide knowledge of military matters, which is promoted to a considerable extent by his good general development....

"It would be desirable to promote him to the post of chief of the regimental school as a commander who is distinguished by his energy, his strict attitude to himself and his work, and by his abilities and his practical knowledge of military matters and of training and lecturing methods."

That was how N.F. Vatutin was rated at the beginning of his formation as a commander, later becoming an outstanding leader of the Soviet Armed Forces during the years of the Great Patriotic War.

This document is an example of responsible and thoughtful efficiency rating, of an attentive approach to assessing an officer, and of the ability to perceive in him those qualities that subsequently made it possible for him to become a great military leader.

Efficiency rating commissions have a large role in ensuring the objectivity of efficiency reports. Their members are, as a rule, immediate superiors who have a good knowledge of those being rated through their practical work. If necessary, the commission has the right to invite both those being rated themselves and their immediate superiors to its sessions to provide information and explanations.

During the last efficiency rating period, deviations from regulation requirements were revealed in the creation of efficiency rating commissions in a number of units. In places their composition did not include chiefs of staff and deputy commanders of the rear, chiefs of cadre organs, and secretaries of party committees, party bureaus, and Komsomol organizations. And after all, the harmonious and coordinated work of commanders, political and cadre organs, and party organizations to compile and examine efficiency reports is a guarantee that all of an officer's qualities will be assessed comprehensively, profoundly, and objectively. It is precisely this kind of approach to this important matter that is displayed, for instance, in the formation where the officer A. Golik is responsible for work with cadres. Measures to organize and carry out efficiency rating are planned and guidance documents [rukovodiyashchiy document] are studied in good time here. These questions are discussed at party meetings and at seminars of secretaries of party and Komsomol organizations.

In many units efficiency rating rooms have been created in which visual material and guidance documents are selected. Commanders and chiefs can receive a thorough consultation here.

The preparation for efficiency rating and the examination and confirmation of efficiency reports are responsible work, which will not bear a hackneyed pattern or soullessness. What is involved, after all, is the implementation of cadre policy, taking account of the party's contemporary demands on that policy. And the approach to this matter must also be a party one which is permeated with care to see that officers persistently and purposefully develop their positive qualities and responsibly and creatively fulfill the tasks laid upon them. Matters must be arranged in such a way that each officer constantly feels a need to enrich his experience and expand his knowledge.

It would be particularly desirable to speak about the personal responsibility of those commanders and chiefs who have been given the right to draw conclusions about the expediency of utilizing subordinates in higher posts. More than once cases have been met with where an officer who has been appointed to a higher post "is not up to it," as they say, and cannot yet effectively and creatively solve a wider range of tasks due to his practical and moral qualities. He is made most strictly responsible and he is assisted. But at times it becomes completely obvious that a clear error has occurred: the educational work turns out to be in vain. Here it is necessary to start thinking about who was at the source of such a failure? Through whose fault did it occur? It is, after all, necessary to make the responsibility rest not only with the person who has "got ahead" of his service post, but also with the person who did not take trouble over a thoughtful approach to analyzing the officer's qualities. But is there always this accountability? Unfortunately, no. That is why, I think, one of the major points of restructuring in this most important sector must be strengthening personal responsibility for promotions--both in the service and party spheres. This would create a reliable obstacle

to formalism and manifestations of undesirable recurrences in cadre policy. For lack of objectivity in efficiency report conclusions and poor knowledge by subordinates, the appropriate functionaries must be held strictly accountable.

It is known that favoritism is seriously detrimental to the cause. A number of facts have been revealed recently that show that certain commanders and chiefs unjustifiably "nudge" certain subordinates toward promotion for mercenary reasons and taking into account their personal devotion, or for nepotistic reasons under the influence of requests by superiors. These negative phenomena are impermissible and deserve the severest condemnation. Carverism, nepotism, and favoritism must be resolutely stopped and punished, because any distortions in cadre policy fundamentally contradict our moral principles and are seriously detrimental to ensuring social justice. The main basis for promoting an officer must not be subservience to a chief, a personal liking for someone, or a word "put in" by an influential figure, but the concrete results of his work and ability to display political maturity, high-level professionalism, moral purity, and adherence to party principles in any situation.

The question is sometimes asked: What should be done if there is no conclusion in an efficiency report about promoting an officer, but in a year or two he proves that he is capable of occupying a higher position?

If after an efficiency report is approved an officer serves extremely well and in practice proves that he is able to successfully cope with the duties of a higher position, the absence of a conclusion to promote cannot hinder his service promotion. It is illegal to artificially hold back his growth. And conversely, if an officer who has been rated for promotion begins to serve poorly and to lose his positive qualities, the question arises: why promote him?

The conclusion about the expediency of service promotions is a kind of incentive for an officer to perform his duties more responsibly. The very best, most active, and enterprising people, who are constantly improving their knowledge, skills, and work style and methods, should be promoted.

The efficiency rating of officers is a matter of great state importance. It must be aimed at molding in them a sense of responsibility for enhancing combat readiness and vigilance, strengthening discipline, and developing heightened vigor in accomplishing the major and responsible tasks set before the armed forces by the 27th CPSU Congress.

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

EDITORIAL: COMBAT TRAINING MUST BE PRIMARY GOAL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Apr 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Assess With Demandingness What Has Been Accomplished"]

[Text] Our time is a time for strictly assessing.... These words have special meaning for us today, at a time when on the tactical exercise fields, in the air, on the seas and oceans, Soviet fightingmen are to render account for the fulfillment of combat and political training plans and programs during the winter training period and socialist commitments in the competition with the slogan "We shall fulfill decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and reliably defend the gains of socialism!"

The fact that the results of the winter training will be summed up soon after the 27th CPSU Congress gives special meaning to this phase in the life of the army and navy. The task is one of assessing with demandingness what has been accomplished and taking prompt and effective steps to eliminate shortcomings, to reveal and activate unutilized reserves and possibilities and to make the experience of the outstanding available to all in accordance with congress directives to increase demandingness in all areas and hold the cadres more responsible, and to assign primary importance to practical matters and the achievement of good end results.

The effectiveness of this work, its mobilizing effect upon the personnel in the struggle to further improve the qualitative indicators in the combat and political training and the achievement of a fundamental improvement of military discipline will depend in great part upon those who are entrusted with summing up the results of the military work, including workers from higher headquarters and political organs. Their work in the units and on the ships during this intensive period must provide a stimulus for those being inspected to demonstrate initiative in the search for new and more effective ways to accomplish the entire range of tasks facing the troops and naval forces at the contemporary stage and serve as an example of principle, an innovative approach to the job, professional competence and objectivity.

Highly intense combat training and a striving to fulfill the commitments in the competition completely and well are typical of most of the subunits, units and ships. In some places, however, there are still instances of simplifications and indulgences. This was indicated, among other things, by the results of an

unannounced KRASNAYA ZVEZDA inspection to determine the quality and effectiveness of the combat training, which has been discussed in previous issues of the newspaper. The inspection showed that not yet all of the commanders, political organs, staffs, party and Komsomol organizations are basing their work on the fact that the combat training must be the main and definitive element in the life of the army and navy. While talking about a readjustment, some of the officials are actually altering nothing in the training and indoctrination and the organization of the service. The increased demands with respect to combat readiness and the nature of modern combat are not always taken into account in the training and indoctrination of the personnel as a result, and attempts are made to resolve problems and to accomplish the new tasks with the old methods, which only retards things. This is inadmissible. We need to resolutely increase demandingness with respect to the quality of the combat training and strive more vigorously to increase efforts to readjust the thinking and the psychology of the cadres, the work style and methods, taking the demands of the times into account.

The readiness and the ability of the troops and naval forces to successfully conduct combat in complex situations have been and remain the main criterion for assessing the troops and naval forces. An assessment of the actual state of affairs must be the basis on which commanders, political organs and staffs analyze their work, as well as those officers from higher staffs and political organs who are assigned to inspect the subunits, units and ships. We must see to it that every check drill and exercise is a real test of combat maturity and a lesson in courage and initiative for the personnel, that it prompts the personnel to seek nontraditional solutions, new tactical methods and actions. It is also important to take every possible step to see that each check drill is a lesson in organization, discipline and regulation demandingness for the fightingmen. Assessing what has been accomplished with demandingness means calling a spade a spade, judging everything unequivocally and objectively informing higher echelons and the personnel of both achievements and deficiencies.

Many gaps in the field, air and naval training of the personnel, as the unannounced inspection by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in a number of subunits and units of various services of the Armed Forces showed, are caused by omissions in the officer training. Improvement of the training in one of the priority tasks. Is it properly organized? Are the needs of all categories of specialists and the latest achievements in methods and military science taken into account? A check should be made to provide a substantive answer to these and other questions and to outline specific guidelines for the work of further improving the professional competence of the military cadres. And this should be based on the fact that their training must be closely coordinated with the tasks facing the troops and naval forces as a whole and the specific subunit, unit and ship. All forms of officer training must be designed to develop in the officers solid professional skills in organizing combat and the ability to organize interaction, to strive precisely for good end results with the smallest possible material outlays, to establish and maintain strict regulation.

Verification of the state of Marxist-Leninist training for the officers and political training for all of the personnel must take into account the fact that their effectiveness is demonstrated primarily by the level of combat readiness, discipline and organization. It is an extremely important task at the present

time to publicize and explain 27th CPSU Congress materials actively and at a high level, to help the people gain a thorough awareness of its innovative decisions and of their responsibility for the implementation of those decisions, and on this basis to strive for a real enhancement of effectiveness in every individual's work.

Socialist competition in the army and navy needs to be further developed. The inspection should carefully analyze the degree to which its organization and forms measure up to the contemporary demands and contribute to the achievement of the best possible end results. It is not enough simply to record who has fulfilled the commitments and whose deeds have not matched their words. We need to help the people rid themselves of elements of formalism in the competition, whereby paperwork is substituted for vital action and the commitments which have been accepted are recalled only at the end of the training period or the training year, and to put the experience of the outstanding at the service of combat readiness.

The Communists and Komsomol members are expected to set an example of great demandingness in assessing what has been accomplished and of the ability to rapidly re-adjust and switch from appeals and assurances to specific practical action. We must work persistently to firmly establish in all party organizations and in every military collective the climate of principle and great demandingness of the cadres for the assigned job, for the prompt detection and elimination of deficiencies and omissions, which was created by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Assessing what has been accomplished with demandingness and objectivity and activating all unutilized reserves in order to truly achieve a fundamental improvement of the combat training and military discipline will promote the successful accomplishment of tasks emerging for the Armed Forces out of decisions of the 27th party congress and the enhancement of combat readiness in the army and navy.

11499
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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

EDITORIAL: UPBRINGING OF 'SOLDIER-CITIZEN'

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 86 p 1

[Editorial: "A School of Courage and Patriotism"]

[Text] Sergeant (Reserve) Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich Shulyak, forge and press operator at the Minsk Motor Vehicle Plant imeni 60th Anniversary of Great October, wrote this letter to the editor. "More than 20 years have gone by," he wrote, "since I came to the plant under Komsomol authorization after serving in the army. During these years I have become attached to the forge, as they say, come to love my difficult trade. When young people ask me what qualities a forge operator should possess, I tell them: primarily strong character. Serving in the army helped me and Vasiliy Sviridenko, Mikhail Surko and Ivan Mikhaylovskiy, my military comrades who arrived at the plant with me, to forge our character. It tempered us spiritually and physically and taught us self-control, discipline and the ability to finish everything we start."

Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich became a Communist in the army. He is now a member of the CPSU Central Committee and a deputy in the USSR Supreme Soviet. He was awarded the State Prize of the BeSSR in 1978 and the title Hero of Socialist Labor in 1981. He was a delegate to the 27th CPSU Congress.

Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich ended his letter to the editor with the following: "We live in a critical time, a time of renewal and readjustment. Large and complex tasks lie ahead of us. Their accomplishment will require energetic and concerned people who acutely feel the nation's concerns and do not give up in the face of any difficulties. The army does a lot to develop such people."

Yes, serving in the army and navy is a tested school of great civic-mindedness, patriotism and internationalism, mass heroism, courage and steadfastness. Millions of Soviet people have gone through it at various times. Today, the character of the fightingmen is tempered and they develop will power, persistence and the ability to overcome all difficulties, on marches, in firing drills and exercises, during the landing of airborne and naval landing groups and in the course of missile launchings, flights and naval cruises--in short, wherever their fighting skills are being honed. The great social significance of the military work, which has the grand and noble objective of ensuring our homeland's security, also defines its great indoctrinal role.

"The party and the state," the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th Party Congress states, "have striven and continue to strive to see that Soviet fightingmen, soldiers and officers, always feel the society's concern and attention as they perform their difficult duties, to see that our army is a school which develops civic responsibility, courage and patriotism."

The indoctrinational role of the Armed Forces is defined by the entire structure of the service, by the life of the military collectives, precisely organized in accordance with the regulations. It is ensured by the fact that prime attention is given to raising the political maturity of the personnel and to the shaping of an ideologically toughened soldier-citizen, a patriot and internationalist infinitely devoted to the party cause and the communist ideals and profoundly aware of his responsibility for the defense of the homeland and the gains of socialism. Every subunit, unit and ship has everything necessary for raising the political awareness of the fightingmen and enhancing their ideological strength. Various forms and methods of ideological, political, indoctrinational and mass cultural work are used for this purpose. It is particularly important today for the indoctrination to be as specific as possible. And one of the ways to achieve this is to thoroughly study the personnel and be close to the people, which means, among other things, knowing their moods and needs and being able to establish a good rapport with them. We must not allow a "wholesale" approach to be taken, whereby the living person gets lost in the chase after numbers of measures and all sorts of "encompassments." It is inconceivable for the indoctrinational work to be effective without extremely close unity of words and deeds.

The climate of creativity which the party is establishing in all areas of life is particularly important in the education of young fightingmen. The youth arrive in the army at the age of 18, which is the time at which their spiritual development is taking place most actively, the basic features of their character are being reinforced, and they are developing a sense of responsibility, comradeship and collectivism. Commanders and political workers must take this into account and arrange all of their work with the personnel in accordance with their general educational level and increased spiritual needs. It is important to see that every word, whether it be uttered in a political class or a discussion, actively penetrates into the minds of the fightingmen and motivates them to train with excellence and perform their service duties irreproachably.

When we speak of the school of courage and patriotism which young people go through in the army, it is valid to single out the role of commanders and political workers in the development of good moral qualities and fighting efficiency in the personnel. It is first of all a matter of the personal example set by the officers. The force of example is a great force! It led our fighters to perform feats during the terrible years of the Great Patriotic War. It inspires the present generation of defenders of the homeland to fulfill their patriotic and international duty properly and steadfastly, to work tirelessly to enhance their combat skills and strengthen military discipline. The daily life of fightingmen in all services of the Armed Forces and branches of troops confirms this in many ways.

The photograph shows just one moment in the everyday training. The motorized rifle company commanded by Senior Lieutenant Aleksandr Miroshnichenko (in the foreground) is striving for the title of excellent company in the year of the

27th CPSU Congress. The fightingmen make an all-out effort in every exercise and demonstrate stamina and steadfastness. "We have someone to look to for an example," they say, "our company commander." Senior Lieutenant Miroshnichenko is a skillful organizer of the training and indoctrination of the fightingmen. He has served in the limited contingent of Soviet forces in Afghanistan and was awarded the "For Valor" medal. Aleksandr has always emulated his father in all things. His father, Mikhail Yakovlevich, was a fighter at the front and incidentally, was also awarded the "For Valor" medal.

Military discipline is the foremost principle in the development of steadfastness, determination, boldness and valor in the fightingmen. It would be difficult to overstate the role of discipline and efficiency of performance for achieving victory in a battle and success in the training and the service. The fightingman develops more rapidly and more productively where strict regulation order has been established and where the combat training is precisely organized. Commanders and political workers, party and Komsomol organizations in the army and navy are directing their efforts precisely toward developing the fightingmen in a spirit of performance efficiency and aware subordination. It is important to establish in the military collectives a spirit of solidarity and a climate of mutual demandingness and intolerance of any deviations from the military oath or military regulations. We cannot accept the fact that in certain units and on certain ships the indoctrinal role of socialist competition has declined in the struggle for good organization and strict regulation order and that the force of public opinion is not fully utilized. Ridding ourselves of these shortcomings will mean raising the indoctrinal role of the military service even higher.

Our people believe profoundly in their Armed Forces and view them as the homeland's reliable shield. Inseparably linked to the people by a oneness of intents and aspirations and profoundly aware of their responsibility for protecting the peaceful labor of the Soviet people, fightingmen of the army and navy are devoting all of their strength and energy and the fervor of their hearts to enhancing the combat readiness of the units and ships and strengthening the combat capability of the Soviet Armed Forces. They regard this as their patriotic, filial duty.

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WARSAW PACT

ORDER OF LENIN TO BULGARIA'S DZHUROV

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Jan 86 p 1

[Ukase of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet: "On the Awarding of the Order of Lenin to Comrade Dobri Dzhurov, member of the Politburo of the BCP Central Committee and Minister of National Defense of the Bulgarian People's Republic"]

[Text] Army General Dobri Dzhurov, member of the Politburo of the BCP Central Committee and Minister of National Defense of the Bulgarian People's Republic, is awarded the Order of Lenin for his large contribution to the strengthening of combat cooperation between the Armed Forces of the USSR and the Bulgarian People's Army, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

A. Gromyko, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet

T. Menteshashvili, Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet
Moscow, the Kremlin
3 January 1986

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ARMED FORCES

MAJ GEN LUKIN CRITICIZES INFLATION OF PERSONNEL EVALUATIONS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Apr 86 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen V. Lukin, Deputy Chief of the Political Directorate of Strategic Rocket Forces, under the rubric "Readjustment: The Communist's Position": "The Height of Morality"]

[Text] When Officer Yu. Kabin's name was mentioned in a critical vein at a meeting of the military council, he was not the only one who turned red and lowered his head. What the officer was accused of applied also in one way or another to those who had recommended him for the higher position. And the charge against Kabin was a serious one: rudeness and lack of tact in dealing with subordinates, arrogance and deception. There was a discussion about removing him from his position.

One of Kabin's references, written before his appointment to the position, listed all of his merits and then indicated one deficiency: sometimes overconfident and sharp. No special importance was attached to this at the time, however. But this was precisely the cause of what happened later. Things seemed to go fairly well for Kabin on his new job, and his conceit began to manifest more and more perceptibly. He began to treat subordinates with increasing sharpness, and a touch of infallibility and grandness became more and more apparent. One of the officers once remarked with good reason: "Our Kabin is starting to take on the airs of a hero."

He did not change all at once, to be sure. His first deviation from the norm was not very noticeable: the man just slipped up, they said.... This was followed by more serious deviations, and Kabin began allowing himself to commit them with increasing boldness: just prior to a summing up of results, he exaggerated the performance in one of the subunits, concealed a gross infraction in another, yelled at a subordinate in a fit of anger.... Incidentally, his inflation system appeared to be producing the desired results at first: according to the records and reports, the overall situation in the unit had improved.

Because of this, superior headquarters grew more convinced that Kabin could instill order. People there closed their eyes to the fact that it was the appearance of order which was being created. They forgot that real order is not established at just any cost but through the absolute observance of regulations and our moral standards.

This story forces one to think about many things. Unfortunately, it sometimes happens that an individual with obvious deficiencies moves upward. This is because his external earnestness, firmness and facility obscure everything else. Or it is because he knows how to "project himself" at the right moment, how to worm his way into the confidence of his chiefs.

Incidentally, that kind of person then shamelessly deceives people also about what has been achieved in his area of the work, conceals shortcomings and reports success where things have not been accomplished. We can see then that the path to deception has a distant beginning: it begins with a desire to make oneself look good at any cost, to exhibit special diligence in one's field of endeavor.

As a rule, the incidents are hard to pinpoint at first. But they must be recognized. They must, because they are real signs, if I may, of the individual's stance in life, of his morals. The party considers it particularly important for the Communist, especially one in charge, to have an honest and pure image, for the individual to have moral purposefulness. This was clearly expressed in 27th CPSU Congress materials and in the approach which is now being taken at the practical level. Every party organization must become charged with the energy of this kind of vigorous action. There is a reason why the CPSU Program stresses the importance of observing the Leninist principles for selecting and indoctrinating cadres, "universally, from top to bottom."

Take our army situation. A lieutenant is advanced to a higher position, and this is where the foundation is laid for his distant future. Now his immediate chief and the lower party organization must influence the resolution of issues in a spirit of principle. And higher echelons need to have greater confidence in their opinion.

This is a demand of the times: greater attention must be given to the spiritual manifestations. What sort of person is he in his life? Are his intentions pure? Have our moral values become a part of his awareness, and are they guiding his conduct? These questions must be answered with maximum exactitude when the individual is evaluated. The morally indoctrinated commander and political worker will always be on top of the situation.

For example, no matter whom one asks about Lieutenant Colonel P. Mayakov, commander of the excellent unit which initiated the socialist competition in the Strategic Rocket Forces, they will unvaryingly say that he is a person of good moral qualities. And these put a special stamp on all of his work as a commander. He is composed and energetic, does not spare himself in the work and is demanding of others. He is stern and smiling. He does not consider it a disgrace to work out with subordinates at the gymnasium, to play chess with them. Naturally, he also has disputes and conflicts, but there has never been a case in which he has resorted to yelling. This means he understands that the only one who yells is a weak and unrefined chief or one who does not know his job, while the officer with a truly strong character and indoctrinated in the party manner will not permit himself to degrade a subordinate or himself with abusive or rude language. He is deeply respected in the Rocket Forces, and he enjoys great prestige as a commander and a party member.

This is what is curious, though. One reads certain references and recommendations for different people, and they contain the same statements--with respect both to

an individual who is truly irreproachable and to one who obviously has some flaws. One thinks about the latter: How can he be "ideologically firm" and "morally strong" if his words and his deeds are not one? If he engages in trickery and resorts to deception? If he is obsequious to superiors and arrogant with subordinates...?

Major A. Filippov is one who conducted himself in this manner. He has been relieved of his position, discharged from the army and expelled from the party. When the military council and the political directorate reviewed his case, some interesting things came out. The individual had long been distinguished by his special "efficiency," by his ability to worm his way into people's confidence and to be helpful. As the poet said: "Here he pets a poodle when it is opportune; Here he leaves his card when the time is right." And he rose in the service. Precisely because he knew how to make himself liked. There were people to advance him, to write positive references which stressed his good qualities.

Did they know his true qualities? They did. They knew them, because they saw the qualities themselves and heard the comments of others. They paid no attention to public opinion, however, ignored the evaluations of party organizations, once even "pressured" a party secretary to sign a recommendation for Filippov. Filippov "the pleaser" advanced as both an ideologically and a morally irreproachable person.

I have already told how it ended. I would add that Officer G. Cherkesov, who furthered Filippov's advancement, has been severely punished both in the service and by the party.

To increase demandingness with respect to the party member's honorable and pure image is to increase demandingness also of those who protect, defend and advance individuals who stray from the straight and narrow.

Unfortunately, people are still frequently judged on the basis of external signs of earnestness and efficiency and this is not linked together with the political-moral aspects of their service performance or their personal conduct. The Military Council and the Political Directorate of the RVSN [Strategic Rocket Forces] have especially directed the attention of commanders, political organs and party organizations to the need for a determined readjustment in this matter. We need to eliminate the downplaying of an officer or general's political and moral qualities, the ignoring of the party organization's opinion when personnel matters are decided, and failure to react sharply to deviations from moral standards in the party collective itself.

There is one other aspect of the matter. A chief gets to know his subordinates by becoming truly close to them. Such closeness does not exist, however, if there is no communication and no ability to go from official to unofficial relations. The fulfillment of the demand now being made of the staff and political workers and the Communists in charge that they spend the bulk of their time working right in the units and subunits, in the party organizations and the military collectives, that they spend time with the personnel more frequently, will also help to gain a better understanding of the character of the people and to study more thoroughly both the Communists and those who do not belong to the party.

Prestige and a great ability to influence others constitute the height of morality for our cadres, for the Communists.

This is what all of us need to bear constantly in mind as we develop and reinforce good spiritual qualities in ourselves and our subordinates.

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18 June 1986

ARMED FORCES

MI-26 TRAINING IN MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Apr 86 p 1

[Article by Capt V. Trusov, Order of Lenin Transbaikal Military District: "A Special Assignment"]

[Text] The flight logs of officers O. Chichkov, Ye. Meshcheryakov and A. Skrebkov, who were flying the Mi-26 that day, contained meager information about the complicated training mission: date, route, hours of flight....

They were to raise an oversize load on a six-meter chain from a narrow gravel bed washed by a mountain stream. The stream flowed through a narrow valley.

First, they had to run through the operation. In order for this to conform as nearly as possible to the actual job, they had to select a load identical in all respects to that in the assigned grid square. They also had to consider the weight of the load to be lifted. In addition, it was necessary to determine what the load would do as it was being towed through the air at a certain speed.

The airmen began making theoretical calculations. They surrounded themselves with diagrams and mathematical tables. After drills and exercises on the ground and in the air, they made major adjustments in the preliminary plan of action.

...Officer Chichkov, holder of the Order of the Red Star, has considerable experience in hoisting and hauling work. Before takeoff he ordered the rotary-wing machine's fuel tanks to be topped off.

The Mi-26 hovered over the objective. The steel cable touched the rocks on the bank. This was necessary in order to remove static electricity from the helicopter. Officer Meshcheryakov flew the helicopter with refined motions, with a jeweler's precision. The crew observed the work of the ground specialists by means of three television screens installed on board. Every shift of position above the stream was calculated literally down to the centimeter. A strong head wind made it difficult to control the helicopter and interfered with the attachment of the towing gear to the load.

Hookup completed, the Mi-26 began lifting the load--cautiously and slowly. The center of gravity was disturbed the moment the load, part of which had been in the stream, was freed of the water. An unexpected problem for both the crew and

the ground support group! In the drill the "duplicate" load had ridden in the "harness" without yawing. Now, a large amount of water which had flowed into the item being lifted was having an effect. Swaying is a dangerous thing even for an aircraft like the Mi-26, which is very stable in the air. Officers Chichkov and Meshcheryakov smoothly reduced flight speed and selected the right engine power for safely continuing the mission. The main thing was to keep the helicopter from going into a spin.

From the ground the enormous rotary-wing machine seemed to float, rather than fly, through the sky. Now it had crossed the mountain ridge, and the helicopter's silhouette with the unusual cargo appeared over the valley. A few minutes later Lieutenant Colonel Mershcheryakov reported to the senior chief that the difficult mission had been completed.

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ARMED FORCES

EDITORIAL STRESSES IMPROVEMENT IN LIVING CONDITIONS OF TROOPS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Jan 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Living Conditions in the Field"]

[Text] Existence in the field provides a broad panorama of life for the personnel in exercises, during firing practice and during the performance of other tasks away from the military post. It involves the organization of messing, rest and relaxation, medical, bathing and laundry services, and the creation of conditions essential for maintaining good morale in the fightingmen and assuring that the military work is highly effective.

The organization of living conditions, including field living conditions, like all other areas of life of the army and navy graphically demonstrate the constant concern shown by the party and the people for having the Soviet Armed Forces, as stated in the draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program, at a level which precludes a strategic advantage for the forces of imperialism. This includes seeing to it that they have everything necessary to reliably protect the gains of socialism. It was pointed out at the All-Army Conference on Improving the Living Conditions of the Troops, held in November of last year, that the materials and equipment base of all the rear services have undergone further development in recent years, that they are provided with reliable technical means of mobility and that the troops' supply of clothing and equipment for the field has been improved. All of this has helped to improve living conditions in the field and bring them into conformity with the great demands made of the servicemen by contemporary combat. This is dynamic, high-speed combat involving great psychological and physical pressures.

Organizing field living conditions in the winter, particularly in areas with a harsh climate and a lot of snow, involves numerous additional work. Making it possible for the personnel to warm up and to dry out uniforms and footwear, and the preventing of frostbite and colds--all of this requires constant concern on the part of commanders, political workers, staff officers and rear service specialists.

These matters receive daily attention in motorized rifle regiment "X" of the Red Banner Far East Military District, for example. The northern winter is severe, but the people there know how to neutralize, so to speak, its freezing breath, to utilize climatic conditions for strengthening the personnel.

For example, recent field exercises were carried out successfully, without a single breakdown. The personnel were provided with hot food three times a day on schedule and were completely outfitted with warm clothing. Not only were organic facilities used for the rest and relaxation of the equipment, but shelters were also made out of materials at hand. The medical service performed the necessary hygienic and preventative medical measures in good time. As a result, the missions were carried out well, and the field exercises were conducted without any injuries, frostbite or illnesses. The worthy contribution made by rear service officers F. Shandrenko and V. Golyakov to the organization of the exercise was fittingly pointed out in the critique.

There are still numerous significant shortcomings in the organization of field living conditions, however. Here is one example. The motorized rifle regiment in which Major A. Vydyborets is deputy regimental commander for rear services, went out on an exercise. The subunits engaged in intense, dynamic operations during the very first hours. Because the field kitchens had not been taken out of storage in good time and firewood had not been laid in for them, there was a considerable delay in getting hot food to the motorized riflemen. Not all of the soldiers and NCOs were provided with mess tins and canteens. Proper arrangements were not made for the rest and relaxation of the personnel. This is a graphic example of irresponsible handling of duties by the rear service specialists and of unsatisfactory demandingness of them on the part of commanders and superior chiefs.

In this case there was an absence of proper concern for the men. Such cases must be given a party assessment based on principle. But we can also not accept a situation in which concern for living conditions reaches the point at which barracks, mess halls and various personal service facilities are built at the training grounds, which are sometimes better than similar facilities at the permanent base. This is particularly true of certain district training centers. Such hothouse conditions can result in a simplified concept of modern combat and be detrimental to the moral-psychological and physical conditioning of the personnel.

Unquestionably, the great capabilities of the logistical services must be fully utilized for improving the field living conditions. It is important not to create "hothouse conditions," however, and to always bear in mind the fact that military service and combat are stern and rigorous concepts which demand a great deal of the individual. This includes endurance and practical skills, specifically the ability to prepare food, to prepare for a night halt and if necessary, to build living quarters. The experience of those units and subunits which give constant attention to the development of these skills in the personnel deserves support.

The experience of the Great Patriotic War is invaluable in this area, as it is in all other areas of army life. It teaches us first of all to regard the organization of living conditions as a matter of priority without which the normal vital functioning of the troops is impossible. Nor can we forget the lesson learned in the war that the living conditions of the personnel must be constantly at the center of attention of commanders, political organs and staffs at all levels.

Take the organization of rest and relaxation for the personnel, as an example. Some commanders and rear service specialists reason that once they have set up the camp tents, the job is finished: they have a roof over their heads. A tent does not always provide even a normal temperature, however, not to speak of the fact that it does not protect against enemy fire. Relying on tents alone is orienting subordinates in advance toward oversimplification and conventionalities. It is an indisputable fact that everything in an exercise must be the same as in a war. Consequently, living conditions must also approach frontline conditions to the maximum possible degree. The fightingmen must be able to dig trenches and dugouts and build field baths, competently, under local conditions and taking the requirements of modern combat into account. It would be difficult to overestimate also the experience in living in the field acquired by our subunits in the Limited Contingent of Soviet Forces in Afghanistan.

Living conditions, including field living conditions, are a political matter, a party concern. It is only natural that the improvement of living conditions received a great deal of attention at the report-and-election party meetings and party conferences. They stressed the fact that commanders, political organs, staffs and party organizations are expected to take a modern approach to the accomplishment of the tasks involved in organizing living conditions and to increase the responsibility of all those in charge, of all the communists, for that important area of the work. We must make fuller use of the possibilities of socialist competition and undeviatingly implement a policy of making thrifty and efficient use of materiel.

Concern for field living conditions is concern for the people, for the combat readiness, for the strengthening of discipline and organization. This means that all military cadres must devote unweakened attention to matters of improving them.

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MILITARY-EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

DOROFEEV ON REQUIREMENTS OF ENGINEER EDUCATION, EVALUATION

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jan 86 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen Yu. Dorofeyev, Professor, Doctor of Military Sciences, Honored Scientist of the RSFSR, under the rubric "Toward the 27th CPSU Congress: KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Forum": "Engineering Erudition: Components of Combat Capability"]

[Text] The components of the combat capability of the Soviet Armed Forces as defined in the draft new edition of the CPSU Program include, among others, military skill and a high level of technical equipment. In my view, these two components are particularly closely interlinked. This interconnection is perceptibly manifested in the new demands set for the military specialists, in the new criteria of his efficiency.

Making perfect use of those awesome and complex weapons and combat equipment which the nation's Armed Forces possess, being able to make maximum use of their combat potential and keeping up with the constant development of military affairs require something more than that which is now a usual part of the definition of "military specialists." In order to accomplish these things it is necessary to be able to reorganize oneself and rapidly grasp new things, and this means that knowledge, boldness and initiative are required.

Each time such changes are required, it inevitably becomes clear that certain specialists cannot handle them, that they are not keeping up with technical progress. Life moves forward and the pace of the renewal process is increasing, and we need people with a level of training making it possible to maintain that pace.

The substance of the ratings "efficient" and "knowledgeable" specialist is changing as a result of this. Quite recently an individual who could sit down at a panel or at the control levers and demonstrate how a specific operation should be performed was considered to be such a specialist. Today, in addition to this, the troop commanders and engineers need a thorough knowledge of achievements in science and technology and the ability to think on the large scale, to be creative and to search. At the same time, it is not enough for the officer merely to be a good "technician." If his level of development is inadequate, if he has a narrow perspective or if his general military training suffers, he will not enjoy prestige no matter how vast his technical erudition.

Along with the general rise in the requirements made of the level of knowledge and skills, the scientific and technological revolution is increasing the role of general educational preparation as the basis for acquiring more and more new knowledge. Time has altered the very concept "qualification." The increased role of knowledge in the process of the military work is manifested in the fact that of the two requisites, "must know" and "must be able to," knowledge is taking on an ever-increasing role.

Why put it this way? Because engineering erudition is elevated to such a high rank today?

Speaking of the necessary level of competence for a leader, V.I. Lenin said the following: "...in order to direct... one must understand all of the production conditions down to the fine points, must understand the equipment employed in that production at its modern level and must have a certain scientific education." This is demanded by the accelerated scientific and technological progress in all areas--also in military affairs, of course.

With respect to the merits of the natural and the technical sciences in the matter of strengthening the nation's defense capability, it would be difficult to assign priority to any of them. Physics gave us nuclear weapons, radioelectronics became the basis for developing automated systems and high-speed electronic computers, and the development of combat equipment depends greatly upon successes in such specialized fields of knowledge as gas dynamics, aerodynamics, rocket dynamics, radiophysics and others. A number of areas of higher mathematics (mathematical statistics, the theory of probabilities, the theory of mass servicing, and so forth) have become a basic "tool" of the operational and tactical crews, without which a decision on the conduct of a battle or operation cannot be made today. Physical chemistry, human-factors engineering, the study of material, cybernetics--there is no science which is not offering its latest discoveries to the army and navy today.

In order to be on top of today's demands, the officer must constantly follow the development of scientific and technical thought. Technical military knowledge arms the commander with the ability to foresee the development of military affairs, to reveal the nature of phenomena during the execution of combat missions. A truly creative approach to the development of an original decision which takes into account the specific features of the new equipment is only possible when the commanders enrich themselves with experience summarized in the scientific military literature and their own experience in performing diversified tasks. This know-how must be constantly improved, refined and expanded. Thoughtfulness and analysis will polish it and give it flexibility and new qualities conforming to the needs of the given moment. Dynamic engineering thinking and the ability to rapidly make necessary calculations are developed in the course of self-improvement. "...Only he who strives to expand his perspective, to add to his theoretical and practical know-how, will not fall behind in military affairs..." M.V. Frunze said when the improvement and technical re-equipping of the army was discussed.

A combination of theoretical knowledge and analysis of experience in the performance of the tasks help to find improved methods of using the equipment and weapons--not a copying process, but the stimulation of thought and

the development of methods conforming to the specific situation, to the modern weapons and methods of conducting military operations. This will have a most positive effect also on combat capability.

The skillful use of such means of destruction as nuclear weapons and modern conventional weapons can rapidly alter the balance of personnel and equipment in favor of the side making the strike and will make it possible to totally defeat the enemy within a short period of time. This is what makes it essential to have a thorough knowledge of the combat features and capabilities of the specific weapon, methods of counteracting it and protecting oneself against it, and to be able to use engineering methods for assessing the situation and adopting a decision for continuing the combat operations.

Take just the following matter. In the age of nuclear weapons, there is an increased role on the battlefield for tank troops with armored protection which reduces the destructive effect of individual elements of penetrating radiation and radiation from a radioactively contaminated area. The extensive equipment of the troops with armored equipment made it necessary to develop antitank weapons capable of destroying the armored equipment at considerable distances from the attack positions. This in turn forced the designers to improve the combat equipment and to develop new methods of employing the tank troops. Scientific achievements were thus embodied in the weapons, and this gave the officers new knowledge, enlarged their engineering erudition and forced them to seek new ways of effectively accomplishing the tactical missions.

Here is yet another important aspect of the matter. The volume of scientific-technical and professional information which the commander must possess has increased considerably and demands a great deal of purposeful independent work on the part of every officer. It should be borne in mind that the stream of scientific and technical information doubles every 10-15 years. Consequently, the volume of technical knowledge essential to the commander must be increased by approximately 10 percent each year. An officer who does not develop his engineering erudition may find himself completely incompetent in his field 10-15 years after graduating from a higher military educational institution. Erudition is after all the basis for continuing to absorb new information and contributes to creative thinking.

I shall cite a specific example. An exercise was underway. A defense sector had to be equipped in freezing winter weather with temperatures dropping to minus 40 degrees. The time available for performing the work was extremely limited. The blastholes could not be extended to the required depth with the available drills, and the bits were breaking. Then a decision was made to use nonorganic jumpers. The combat engineers performed the blasting and removed the loosened earth from the pits. The trenches and the structure for the command post were completed on time.

Engineering erudition contributes to the successful accomplishment of engineer support missions. This is borne out by the experience of the Great Patriotic War. I recall the forcing of the Oder. Landing stages were built for taking the troops across on ferries in accordance with the recommendations. The enemy used technical installations at reservoirs upstream in an attempt to

prevent the crossing, however. The water level in the river changed, and the equipment could not be loaded onto the ferries from the landing stages. Naturally, the correct solution was loose-leaning construction of the tops of the landing stages, which would rise and fall with the water level and could be secured in different positions making it possible for the forces to cross without interruption. The mission was completed in full.

A knowledge of the laws of modern warfare and of the capabilities of the weapons and equipment, and the ability to make maximum use of them with great effectiveness are acquired in the practical training of the troops. It develops engineering erudition and at the same time raises the overall professional level. This process of mutual enrichment helps to build up the combat capability.

The Soviet people, as pointed out at the October 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, are accomplishing the tasks involved in the creation of communism in a complex international situation, and this objectively requires that our nation's defense capability be strengthened. The party is working to improve it and demonstrating concern for the combat capability of the Armed Forces, and it is counting on the competence of the cadres, including the military cadres, being raised to a high level of creative activity, counting on the professional skill of the homeland's armed defenders.

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DAILIES PUBLISH ARTICLES ON VE DAY ANNIVERSARY

Army Gen Maksimov Article

PM151220 Moscow TRUD in Russian 9 May 86 p 1

[Article by Army General Yu. Maksimov, commander in chief of Strategic Missile Forces and USSR deputy defense minister: "Feat on Behalf of Peace"]

[Text] A grateful mankind will never forget the greatness of the Soviet people's feat in World War II. It was the Soviet people who by their military and labor heroism saved the world from the brownshirt plague and freed many peoples from fascist bondage.

We paid a high price for liberating the fraternal peoples. Thousands upon thousands of our motherland's internationalist patriots gave their lives in the struggle to free the enslaved peoples.

Here are a few more grim, impressive figures. World civilization paid for the victory over fascism with 50 million lives lost, hundreds of millions of lives ruined, and enormous material losses. Total military expenditure from state budgets alone amounted to 1.117 trillion dollars. That is the kind of war it was...! The Soviet Union lost around 30 percent of its entire national wealth and spent R582.4 billion on the war in 1941-1945. That represented around R500 million per day. It is clearly worth remembering that our allies' expenditure was much less. U.S. expenditure, for example, was just 1.267 trillion dollars, or 4 percent of the total value of all countries' wartime losses. The number of people killed on the U.S. side amounted to 0.6 percent of the total loss of life. The flames of war blazed for 6 long years, enveloping the territory of 40 countries in Europe, Asia, and Africa.

The main feature of World War II was the Soviet Union's uncompromising, fierce, and just struggle against fascist Germany. The victory won under our Communist Party's leadership was graphic evidence of our social and state system's superiority, strength, and indomitability.

The war confirmed the correctness and timeliness of the measures taken by the party and the Soviet Government to strengthen the material bases of the state's defense capability. It was not possible to complete everything planned before the outbreak of hostilities, but the main thing was achieved--the USSR had a powerful material and technical base.

During the war Soviet troops received from industry 70 of the main classes of warship, more than 112,000 aircraft, 102,800 tanks and self-propelled artillery pieces, more than 351,000 mortars, and around half a million guns of all types and calibers. Our military technical superiority over the enemy was assured. Our science, design thinking, and production provided the finest types of tanks, guns, mortars, and planes in World War II. The army was supplied fully with clothing, footware, food, fuel, and medical services. This was a feat performed by the heroic Soviet rear services.

Imperialism was responsible for the two world wars. And it is imperialism which is today creating the threat of a third world war. Bourgeois falsifiers have been vainly attempting for many years to whitewash imperialism and exculpate it from starting the last war.

Events in the period since the 27th CPSU Congress have convincingly confirmed the correctness of the conclusions and provisions of its documents on the militarist nature of imperialism. It has inflicted and continued to inflict bloody wounds on the planet. The world remembers imperialism's crimes at Hiroshima and Nagasaki and in Vietnam, Panama, Chile, Angola, Grenada, Cuba, Nicaragua, Mozambique, and Libya. The crimes against Libya, the stubborn continuation of nuclear tests, the senseless arms race, the militarization of outer space, and the boycott of USSR peace initiatives are all manifestations of the aggressive thrust of the U.S. course.

The campaign in the East resulted in a crushing blow being dealt to fascism and ended with the great victory of the Soviet people. The present pretenders to world domination should not forget that history sternly punishes those who do not heed its lessons. An appeal for political vigilance on the part of all the peoples was made by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev at the GDR Communists' Party forum: "The fate of the world must not be handed over to the mercy of American militarists." Aggressive forces in America are seeking to spread the arms race into outer space and have the whole planet in their sights. That is the goal pursued by the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI) program. SDI's real purpose is to ensure conditions for permanent nuclear blackmail of the Soviet Union and other countries of the world and subsequently the possibility of mounting a nuclear attack with impunity.

But we are capable of fittingly meeting any challenge, including a military space challenge. Inspired by the decisions of the party congress and mindful of the lessons of the last war, all Soviet servicemen are by their selfless labor strengthening the cause of peace and the country's defense might.

All branches of the USSR Armed Forces, which serve as a reliable shield of peace, are developing in line with scientific and technical progress. The Ground Forces' firepower today consists of tactical and operational-tactical missiles capable of hitting targets at ranges of tens or hundreds of kilometers. The strength of the tank troops, who have protection against the effects of mass destruction weapons and are highly maneuverable, has increased.

Our Air Force has taken great strides forward. Our fighters, armed with air-to-air missiles, are capable of destroying the most modern aviation means at any altitude or speed. All-weather missile-carrying planes can destroy any ground target. It is difficult even to compare today's air defense troops with their wartime counterparts. The air defense forces possess highly effective antiaircraft complexes, supersonic interceptor fighters, sophisticated radar stations, and automated combat control systems.

Our nuclear missile-carrying Navy can wage effective combat operations in any region of the world's oceans. Nuclear submarines fitted with ballistic missiles armed with powerful charges serve in conjunction with ground-based strategic facilities as a reliable means of deterring an aggressor. Aircraft-carrying, missile-carrying, and ASW ships contain the latest achievements of Soviet missile construction, the power industry, radio electronics, and the aircraft industry.

In the prevailing international situation the CPSU's program demands for all-around improvement of the Soviet state's defense capability and strengthening of the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces missilemen have been taken as an order from the motherland. The strategic missilemen are the main component of our strategic nuclear forces. They are troops of high combat readiness who are on constant combat duty.

Missilemen have accomplished quite a few feats in our time. Lieutenant V. Basov and Privates D. Bushuyev and Z. Zakiryanov have received combat awards for courage and military valor in performing their official duty. True to his military oath, Captain Kuznetsov sought to save burning crops and died in the blaze. The grain field now bears his name. If a man is capable of sacrificing himself to save his motherland's grain, he will not falter in combat. I met with such people during the 27th CPSU Congress. They were delegates there: Guards Private First Class O. Sherstobitov and officers Yu. Churilov and A. Chernozhukov--Heroes of the Soviet Union.

Sustained and persistent work to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress to enhance the Armed Forces' combat potential has become one of Soviet servicemen's finest traditions. This has shown itself particularly vividly in the period of preparation for Victory Day celebrations, now that the winter training period is coming to an end.

All Soviet people, including our servicemen, fervently support the program of activity to maintain and secure peace proposed at the 27th CPSU Congress. The main aim is to ensure that the Soviet people can work in conditions of lasting peace and freedom. After comprehensively considering the prevailing situation, the Soviet Union set the task of completely eliminating weapons of mass destruction by the end of this century and creating an all-embracing international security system. Our ideal is a world free of weapons and violence.

Traditionally, war veterans assemble on the squares and in the streets of cities and villages of this flourishing country of ours. Examine their faces--the faces of victors. They are good people who are considerate and responsive to people's misfortune and hate war. Their love for the motherland is

boundless. The sociopolitical and ideological unity of society, the inviolable union of the working class and kolkhoz peasantry, and the friendship of the USSR's peoples have given the Soviet people the spiritual strength for mass heroism. Whole units and formations displayed it. During the war regiments and divisions received more than 10,900 awards. More than 7 million people received orders and medals. The high award of Hero of the Soviet Union was presented to 11,603 people, 104 receiving it twice.

Veteran heroes of the combat and labor fronts will receive flowers, smiles, and greetings from the motherland on Victory Day. The motherland will thank them for their unparalleled feat in the war years. The veterans also share in the happy knowledge that we have worthy heirs to the victory. The children of these veterans are building and protecting the socialist world. They are the grandchildren mounting guard at the eternal flame commemorating the fallen heroes.

I well remember Victory Day, 9 May 1945, which I welcomed as a member of the active army. I was 21 years old then, and all of us who had survived were filled with joy at being alive. There were many flowers, happy smiles and tears. I did not think during those first few hours of peace that every day after 9 May 1945 would demand from us huge efforts and constant exertion of will to ensure that the victory was defended by high combat readiness, vigilance, and martial labor on the part of the Armed Forces.

The Soviet people remember the war and the victors. Nothing will ever make them falter before hostile forces. We will be able to defend our fatherland. But we will threaten no one. The Soviet Union does not aspire to greater security but nor will it accept less. Given the prevailing international situation, that is the only way for the time being to return certain inordinately aggressive figures in the Western world to the path of sensibly searching for a way out of the critical situation of the present day.

There are far more people in our common home who cherish peace than crave war. The potential of peace, reason, and goodwill has substantially expanded and strengthened. The Warsaw Pact Armed Forces serve as a buttress for the potential for peace. By our joint efforts we are defending world socialism and social progress and thereby also the future of our world.

MSU Petrov Article

PM131200 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 May 86 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union V. Petrov, USSR first deputy defense minister: "Lessons of History"]

[Text] The day of 9 May has forever gone down in history as the festival of our great victory over the forces of world reaction. A radiant, portentous festival, it is now being celebrated in an atmosphere of high political and labor enthusiasm brought about by the results of the work of the 27th Party Congress.

The crushing rout of fascism during the Great Patriotic War years saved mankind from enslavement and created favorable conditions for the working people's struggle for peace, social progress, and national independence. As a result of the victory of socialist revolutions in a number of countries, socialism became a world system--which led to fundamental changes in the correlation of world forces and in the political awareness of the masses.

Fascist Germany and its satellites were routed by the efforts of the peoples and armies of the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition. However, the chief role in routing the aggressor belonged to the Soviet Union. When it entered the war, the center of the entire armed struggle against fascism shifted to the Soviet-German front, which then remained for 4 years the chief front of World War II. At that time the USSR became the nucleus around which united the peoples which had come under Hitler's yoke or found themselves threatened with enslavement by invaders.

For the Soviet people and their Armed Forces the road to victory was long and bloody. In the course of difficult trials, which lasted 1,418 days and nights, the Soviet people and the USSR Armed Forces under the guidance of the Leninist party displayed valor and courage, mass heroism and an unbending will for victory. Revealing the sources of our victory, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev points out: "The victory won was not just a victory for our weapons. It was a victory of the socialist system, of our economic and political system, of our ideology and morality. The war brought incalculable misfortunes. But it revealed with astounding force the unprecedented fortitude of the Soviet people's revolutionary spirit, their patriotism, courage, and mass heroism. The war showed what a people defending a righteous cause, their motherland, and their socialist gains is capable of." The imperialists began preparing for war against the USSR long before the formation of its main hotbeds, and it evolved into an entire system of coordinated, purposeful actions and measures. It was precisely the reactionary militarist forces, seeking to unite on the common platform of anticomunism and anti-Sovietism, that nurtured German fascism, put it in power, and armed it. With their policy of "appeasement," "connivance," and "encouragement," by means of territorial, economic, political, and military concessions to German fascism, the governments of Britain, France, and the United States directed and urged on German fascist expansion against the USSR.

Feverish preparations for war became the chief lynchpin of Germany's domestic and foreign policy. The terrorist regime engendered by imperialism turned Germany into a country of war openly proclaiming its pretensions to world supremacy. Propaganda of the cult of war and of military force, fanning of nationalist passions, "geopolitical" views on gaining "living" space, and aggressive desires, falsification for militarist purposes--everything was used to prepare the people and the Army for aggression.

On seeing those intensified preparations for war by fascist Germany, short-sighted Anglo-Franco-American politicians pushed it still more insistently into a "crusade" against the Land of the Soviets. Against the will of their peoples, they remained deaf to the Soviet Government's insistent call to curb the aggressors by collective efforts, to prevent a world conflagration from flaring up, and to preserve peace on the planet.

The Western countries' pernicious policy of "appeasement" and inaction led to the result that by the end of 1940 the peoples of almost all of West Europe were already groaning beneath the Nazis' heel. This was the fruit of the bourgeoisie's national betrayal and the shameful outcome of an anti-Soviet policy.

The Communist Party and the Soviet Government foresaw the approaching military thunder storm, pursued a flexible foreign policy, and prepared the country to repulse aggression. They quickly succeeded in resolving many questions of the technical reequipment of the Army and Navy and their preparation to wage armed struggle against the armies and navies of the countries of the fascist coalition. By the spring of 1941 the Soviet Army met the demands of mobile warfare in terms of its effective strength for combat, organizational structure, and standard of training. However, by the start of the war it was at an extreme disadvantage: There was too little time for direct preparation for it, measures had not been completed to concentrate and deploy troops and to create the necessary groupings, and industry was behindhand with putting new tanks, aircraft, and antitank and antiaircraft guns into major series production.

With a huge invasion army comprising 190 divisions (more than 47,000 guns and mortars, more than 4,000 tanks, and approximately 5,000 combat aircraft), the enemy had 3-4 times the number of Soviet troops in the salients of his chief strikes. The invaders' troops were fully mobilized and carefully trained and had 2 years' experience of war. Profiting from temporary advantages and taking the strategic initiative, the fascist armies thrust eastward and sought to take Moscow, Leningrad, and the Donbass as quickly as possible and to reach the Volga. The invaders pictured a speedy victory.

But the enemy celebrated too soon. Soviet troops rose up in his path. In border battles and in heavy defensive fighting they held up the offensive onslaught, pulverized the invader's crack divisions, and weakened his shock groupings. But it took 17 months of strenuous armed struggle against the superior forces of a cruel enemy in order to completely and finally ensure that all the aggressor's plans and schemes were wrecked. Then the course of the war was abruptly changed. The Soviet Army, supported by the entire people, went over to a resolute offensive and finally seized the strategic initiative. During 1943-1945 it inflicted consistent crushing defeats, liberated Soviet land, freed the peoples of a number of countries from fascist bondage, and shifted combat operations onto enemy territory--which led to the liquidation of the chief hotbed of war and the unconditional capitulation of Hitlerite Germany.

The active involvement of the peoples of Yugoslavia, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and Albania in the armed struggle intensified the growing strikes from the east against the fascist invaders.

Of course, under conditions when the anti-Hitler coalition had been set up, the duration of the war could have been reduced and the losses greatly diminished. However, the United States and Britain deliberately postponed opening a second front and waited for the Soviet Union to be drained as much as possible. Only after the battle of Kursk, when the outcome of the war was

predetermined, did the United States take practical steps to coordinate war plans and to prepare to open a second front. But that took lengthy and strenuous work on the part of Soviet diplomacy.

The Soviet Union's victory over the forces of fascism and aggression was historically conditioned by the entire course of the Soviet state's development and by the objective potential contained in the very nature of socialism. The mobility of the Soviet economy (under extremely great strain and with relatively smaller industrial potential than the enemy) and the people's heroic labor made it possible to give the Armed Forces everything necessary to wage a victorious war. The party's firm and farsighted leadership, its organizing and inspiring role, and its purposeful ideological educational work ensured the Soviet people's monolithic unity and the strength of the front and the rear--which, in the final analysis, brought about the historic victory. The results of the Great Patriotic War convincingly confirmed the mighty force of the Leninist party's ideas, the wisdom and perspicacity of its policy, and the high art of organizing the armed struggle in the course of which the Soviet Armed Forces totally routed the enemy's chief forces, thereby demonstrating their invincibility.

The lessons of the Great Patriotic War are of lasting significance. And the chief lesson is that it is necessary to struggle against war before it begins. Historical experience teaches that what is needed to defend peace is cohesive, concerted, and vigorous actions by all peace-loving forces against imperialism's aggressive, adventurist course. It is necessary to enhance the peoples' vigilance and safeguard and augment socialism's gains.

The recent past taught the world's peoples to remember the danger that wars pose to people's lives. The inadmissibility of using war as a means of resolving disputed questions between states became particularly obvious with the emergence of nuclear missile weapons, whose mass use could result in the destruction of entire peoples and states. Modern weapons are such that they leave no state any hope of defending itself just by military-technical means, since it is impossible to win not only a nuclear war itself but also the arms race. Ensuring security, it was pointed out at the 27th CPSU Congress, is increasingly appearing as a political task. The Soviet Union proposes the total elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world by the end of the 20th century. The 27th CPSU Congress advanced the idea of creating a comprehensive international security system and formulated the fundamentals of such a system.

Historical experience teaches that it is necessary to expose the ideologues of war, all kinds of revanchists and neofascists, and other apologists for militarism who are prepared to use any means to achieve aggressive ends. It is necessary to deal a rebuff to anticomunism and anti-Sovietism, which led to World War II and now constitute the basis of the policy of imperialism's reactionary forces.

It should be taken into account that under modern conditions Western politicians, ignoring the instructive lessons of history and the realities of our days, act and think in the old way. This alone can account for the fact that

the West European NATO countries zealously pander to the American imperialists and their aggressive actions. The U.S. ruling circles are the chief culprit behind the escalation of international tension. They irresponsibly play with the destinies of millions of people to satisfy their own imperial ambitions. From the position of the aggressive doctrine of "neoglobalism" and having proclaimed entire regions of the world zones of its "vital interests," the U.S. Administration is trying to keep the world on the brink of war. The United States is intensively deploying ground-, air-, and sea-based strategic offensive forces and developing [razrabotka] wespns based on new physical principles. Schemes to deploy offensive strike weapons in space pose a special danger.

The Soviet Union, as reaffirmed most strongly at the 27th CPSU Congress, rejects wars as a means of resolving interstate political and economic contradictions and ideological disputes. Our ideal is a world without weapons or violence. The struggle against the nuclear danger and the arms race and for the preservation and strengthening of world peace was and still is the main direction of the activity of the CPSU and the Soviet state in the world arena. We advocate mutual, universal security, equal for all.

At the same time, in the policy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries love of peace is combined with readiness to guard themselves against aggression and to defend the inviolability of borders and the territorial integrity of states.

For the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries struggling for peace means strengthening their economic and defense might in every possible way. It means maintaining the USSR Armed Forces at a level that rules out strategic superiority for imperialism's forces. The preservation of the established military-strategic parity between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact Organization and NATO is a real factor for ensuring peace and international security.

The CPSU program adopted by the 27th Party Congress points out that, as long as the danger exists of imperialism unleashing aggressive wars and military conflicts, the party will devote unflagging attention to reinforcing the USSR's defense might and strengthening its security and the readiness of the Armed Forces to rout any aggressor.

Thanks to the party's concern and the entire party's efforts, the Soviet Army and Navy are developing with due regard to the international situation and in accordance with the achievements of scientific and technical progress. They are equipped with first-class weapons and combat hardware. Knowing their great responsibility for the security of the peoples of the USSR and the fraternal socialist countries, the Soviet Armed Forces personnel are vigilantly keeping the peace watch and strengthening fraternal friendship with servicemen of the Warsaw Pact countries' armies. Speaking at the 27th CPSU Congress, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR minister of defense, pointed out that the combat readiness of the Soviet Army and Navy is being maintained at the proper level. They are ready to deal a rebuff to any aggression, wherever it might proceed from.

Servicemen defending the motherland know that the imperialist aggressor usually gambles on the unexpected, surprise nature of an attack, and they display vigilance with regard to imperialism's aggressive intrigues and constantly strengthen their combat readiness.

In the interests of maintaining the high combat readiness of troops and their management organs, chief emphasis is placed on enhancing the quality of field, air, and sea training and making their training approximate as closely as possible to the conditions of a real combat situation. Special attention is devoted to strengthening the personnel's morale and combat qualities and military discipline, to physical training and the ability to surmount the difficulties characteristic of modern combat. The party has armed Soviet servicemen with Marxist-Leninist teaching--the inexhaustible source of ideological conviction, political maturity, combat activeness, and class hatred of the aggressor. The Soviet people may rest assured that today's generation of defenders of the socialist motherland is the worthy heir and continuer of the combat traditions of the heroic generation which on previous battlefields upheld the honor and independence of its homeland and routed the aggressor.

An inexhaustible source of our Armed Forces' might is their indissoluble unity with the people. Historical experience shows that only by the efforts of the entire people, under the Leninist party's leadership, is it possible to prepare for and ensure the socialist motherland's successful defense. Therefore it is necessary to persistently improve the working people's military-patriotic education and actively carry out mass defense work. Every Soviet person is obliged to do everything in his power to maintain the country's defense capability at the proper level.

Our people are celebrating the victory festival in a businesslike mood, under the profound impression of the results of the work of the 27th CPSU Congress. Resolving the tasks of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development, they are full of determination to continue devoting all their energy to further strengthening the economic and defense might of the motherland, which is traveling the Leninist path of communist creation and peace.

Army Gen Lizichev Article

PM131410 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 May 86 First Edition p 2

[Article by Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate: "The People's Feat"]

[Text] Victory Day has come to our land once more! It is a particularly bright and solemn holiday, which is near to everyone's heart.

Time and again millions of people look back to that moment in history when the Victory Banner was raised in Central Europe over the former fascist Reichstag.

The further back in time that unforgettable day of 9 May 1945 recedes, the clearer its tremendous historical significance for the fate of socialism, progress, and peace on our planet becomes.

For Soviet people the Victory will never be just a matter of history. It is in our present and our future. It is the object of our people's nationwide pride, a mighty factor for the education of new generations of creators and defenders of socialism, and a formidable warning to those who would like to test our durability once again.

Some people in the West are urging others to forget the last war and its results and lessons, too, and are trying to belittle the significance of our victory. No one has the right to do that! The greatness of the Soviet people's feat is not subject to time. This feat will live on forever in the grateful memory of their descendants! We shall never forget those who gave their lives for the motherland and did not return from the battlefield. Their bright memory lives on in each family and in the heart of every Soviet person.

...These days people are going to majestic monuments, modest memorials, and mass graves: sons paying tribute to their fathers, grandsons to their grandfathers, widows to their husbands... The flood of nationwide tribute to this feat is unending.

The Victory Day holiday is a great unification of the souls, minds, and aspirations of millions of Soviet people.

The people direct the warmest, heartfelt words of gratitude to their collective leader [vozhd] and wise guide [rukovoditel]--the Communist Party. It united Soviet people and directed their energy, will, actions, heroic struggle at the front, and colossal labor in the rear toward a single goal--routing the Fascist aggressor.

Faced with the mortal danger hanging over the country, it boldly and unhesitatingly assumed the full burden of historic responsibility for the fate of the motherland and socialism. From the very first days of the war Lenin's party became a fighting party and merged as one with a militant people. Three million Communists laid down their lives in the struggle against the enemy.

Nowadays, too, Communists are to be found in the front ranks and in the most responsible areas of the motherland's defense. Party organizations are active in almost 80 percent of Ground Forces companies and batteries. The overwhelming majority of Strategic Missile Forces combat crews are manned entirely by Communists. Communists make up more than 80 percent of Air Force pilots and navigators, more than 90 percent of officers on missile-carrying submarines, and 95 percent of officers of the command of Air Defense Forces active troops. They unite personnel around the Communist Party, convey its ideas to the masses, and by their own example move servicemen to new heights of combat skill.

Today the people honor those who bear the lofty title of Great Patriotic War veteran and who, sparing neither strength nor life, struggled against the enemy at the front and fought in partisan detachments and in the underground. We pay humble tribute to the living and the fallen, the known and unknown heroes!

Victory we are commemorating Victory Day in an atmosphere in which the Soviet people have begun implementing the 27th CPSU Congress' historic decisions. It was held at a crucial, breakthrough stage, answered the fundamental questions facing the party and society, took major strategic decisions on the improvement of socialism, and gave a mighty impetus to the revolutionary renewal of all spheres of social life. The documents adopted by the congress and the businesslike discussion of the most vital questions from positions of party principledness and in the language of truth and frankness have roused Soviet people and instilled in them a fervent desire to transform the energy of schemes into the energy of concrete actions.

For 41 years there have been peaceful skies over Europe, our common home. This has been achieved primarily by the efforts of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries.

But throughout that time the threat of war has remained a grim reality. Its source is well known. It is found in the aggressive policy, hegemonist aspirations, and imperial ambitions of U.S. imperialism and the U.S. military-industrial complex.

The policy of peace and security pursued by the USSR and the fraternal socialist countries counters the policy of militarism, social revanche, and expansion now expressed in the "doctrine of neoglobalism." It is embodied in the undeclared wars against Afghanistan, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Angola, and Mozambique and in subversive actions against other sovereign states. The cynicism, bandit-like character, and brutality of this doctrine were shown with new force in the U.S. aggression against Libya.

These actions are backed by those forces which would like to end the thaw observed in USSR-U.S. relations and do away with the "spirit of Geneva." The CPSU is doing everything to ensure that the Soviet people have the opportunity to work in conditions of lasting peace and freedom. Its activity in the international arena has been and remains centered on the struggle against the nuclear danger and the arms race and for the preservation and consolidation of world peace. The 27th CPSU Congress elaborated a comprehensive concept of peace. It takes into account the new realities of the nuclear space age and the lessons of the last war. We look to the future with optimism, since we know that imperialism is not omnipotent. The potential of peace, reason, and good will can curb the forces of reaction and war. The guarantee of that lies in the strengthening economic and defense might of the USSR and our allies in the Warsaw Pact and CEMA and in the growing moral and political authority of socialism.

There has been a fervent response throughout the world to the recent Soviet peace initiatives and, above all, the program for the complete and universal elimination of nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction before the end of the 20th century, as set out in the 15 January 1986 statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbachev with the aim of strengthening European security and achieving a fair and gradual reduction of the level of conventional armaments are being discussed on a wide scale.

Following Lenin's demand, the CPSU combines steps for peace with the strengthening of the country's defense capability and the combat might of the Army and Navy.

Taking into account the lessons of the war and situation in the world, the 27th CPSU Congress set responsible tasks before the motherland's armed defenders. They must show high vigilance and always be ready to thwart imperialism's intrigues against the USSR and its allies.

Ensuring that our Armed Forces are at a level which precludes the imperialist forces' strategic superiority is regarded by the party as one of the important program tasks in the defense sphere.

The level of development of the Soviet economy, science, and technology make it possible to answer any imperialist challenge, including the military and space challenge. That is how it has been and how it will always be.

Our Army's strength lies in its remarkable people. All servicemen--from privates through to marshals--wholeheartedly accepted the 27th Party Congress decisions and see their inspired military labor as the key to the further strengthening of the Soviet land's defense might.

The firm fusion of military skill, high technical equipment, ideological staunchness, the organization and discipline of personnel, and their fidelity to their patriotic and internationalist duty is created in the process of the education and participation of servicemen in fulfilling combat duty tasks, on exercises and maneuvers, missile launches, long-distance sea voyages, and flights.

Victory our Army's strength is in its unity with the people. Soviet servicemen actively participate in the country's sociopolitical life and the resolution of national economic tasks. Our servicemen worked selflessly in the Eastern section of the Baykal-amur Railroad. They are always ready to provide assistance whenever disaster strikes. Servicemen are now taking part in eliminating the after-effects of the Chernobyl AES accident.

Specialists are being trained in almost 2,000 disciplines in the ranks of the Army and Navy. Many are in the forefront of scientific and technical progress. Reserve servicemen swell the ranks of machine operators, drivers, construction workers, specialists in the sphere of radio engineering and electronics, and work in responsible areas. During the 11th 5-Year Plan 650,000 servicemen were sent to the country's shock construction sites.

The present generation of Army and Navy servicemen revere and increase the glorious traditions and combat deeds of those who defended the motherland in the grim years of the Great Patriotic War.

The soldiers and commanders helping the people of Democratic Afghanistan to defend the April Revolution's gains are showing a high understanding of internationalist duty, heroism, courage, and bravery.

Senior Lieutenant Nikolay Dronov is among those soldiers. A graduate of a higher artillery college, he responded to the call of the heart and the dictates of military duty by requesting that he be sent to do his military service in the long-suffering land of Afghanistan. Nikolay could act no other way, that was how his motherland and family had reared him. The officer's father, Captain Dmitriy Nikiforovich Dronov, retired, had fought courageously against the enemy during the war. For bravery in battle he was awarded the Order of the Red Star and many medals. Service in defense of the motherland has become traditional in their family: Mikhail and Aleksandr, his two elder brothers, are officers in assault troops and also served in Afghanistan. In the complex conditions of the combat situation Nikolay Dronov acted with boldness and determination and was wounded twice. For courage and high combat skill in battles against the Afghan people's enemies Snr Lt N.D. Dronov was awarded the Order of the Red Star and the medal "For Valor." His party comrades bestowed the highest honor on him: he was elected a delegate to the 27th CPSU Congress.

In the Army and Navy, just as in the country as a whole, restructuring is going on in the work of commanders of political organs, party and Komsomol organizations, and all categories of personnel. The main task of the restructuring is to ensure that every serviceman in his particular place serves the motherland conscientiously, to the best of his ability, and with initiative and achieves high results in training, discipline, and combat readiness.

Confidently building up momentum, the country greets Victory Day at the height of its creative powers. The people, who defeated a terrible and cruel foe, rebuilt the country in the difficult postwar years, and achieved outstanding successes in all spheres of life, will manage to respond to history's new challenge. This will be a worthy continuation of the cause which older generations of Soviet people heroically defended in the war years.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

VINOGRADOV CRITIQUE OF JOINT U.S.-JAPAN DEFENSE PLANNING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Jan 86 p 3

[Article by V. Vinogradov under the "Commentary" rubric: "They Already Feel Cramped..."]

[Text] A recent publication of the U.S. Navy, "U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings," contained a remarkable article on military ties between the United States and Japan. It demonstrated irrefutably that Washington intends to get Tokyo involved in even more active preparations for aggressive actions in Asia together with the armed forces of the USA. The "Kyodo Tsusin" agency is of the opinion that in this publication the Pentagon is making official demands of its Far East ally. And the newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN underscores the fact that precisely these demands will be officially presented to the Japanese by the Pentagon at the annual bilateral "consultations on matters of security" which are soon to be held.

Just what is the essence of these demands? The Japanese "self-defense forces" must provide direct combat support to the United States in offensive land operations "outside the territory of the Japanese archipelago." And the Japanese Navy and Air Force are directed to prepare for "active warfare" on Pacific Ocean lines of communication even beyond the 1,000-mile zone over which Tokyo has already committed itself to establish "military control."

In connection with this one's attention is drawn to a statement by Prime Minister Nakasone to the effect that in an "emergency," Tokyo is prepared to order its armed forces to conduct joint combat operations with American forces, including the execution of strikes "in the depth of the enemy's territory." This announcement evoked literally a storm of public indignation in Japan itself. The newspaper ASAHI has pointed out that the Nakasone Cabinet's policy of taking the "self-defense forces" beyond the borders of the archipelago goes directly against the nation's constitution, which forbids the use of force or threat of force for resolving international disputes.

It is reported that by pursuing this course, Japan's national defense directorate (UNO) is taking extremely dangerous steps, clearly under pressure from the Pentagon. Among other things, plans have been announced for the conduct of joint exercises by ground forces of the USA and Japan in the southern part of the Korean Peninsula. A representative of the national

defense directorate has also reported that additional squadrons of Japanese air forces have been moved to Okinawa, which can operate from airfields on that island even beyond the 1,000-mile zone. It has been announced that in the multilateral "Rimpac" maneuvers to be conducted in the central Pacific in the spring of 1986, Japanese naval forces will be represented by a large detachment of ships and ASW aircraft.

In light of these facts, Tokyo will most likely once again give in to Washington's demands and accept "increased commitments" in the military area. Washington and Tokyo's actions cannot fail to evoke the most serious alarm in the Asian peoples, particularly those who could learn from their own experience in World War II what it means to have Japanese soldiers on their soil.

11499
CSO: 1801/88

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

CRITICISM OF U.S. 'MILITARIZATION, PROVOCATION' IN KOREA

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 86 p 3

[Article by A. Golts, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA observer, under the rubric "Military-Political Review": "The 'Neoglobalists' on the Asian Scene"]

[Text] Who Is the Boss in Seoul; "Team Spirit-86," a Multi-purpose Provocation; They Incite Regional Conflicts

"Who is actually the boss in the country? For whom does this country exist?" the South Korean newspaper CHOSUN ILBO asked, not without irony, a month or so ago when it described the dictatorial regime's massive reprisals against the opposition. I believe that such a question would simply not arise today. Afterall, Seoul has just received with ceremony a representative of those who consider themselves to be the boss in this nation--and its rulers do not argue with this: U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger has visited South Korea.

His itinerary through the Asian and Pacific Ocean region included Japan, Thailand, the Philippines and Australia. He still decided to begin with South Korea, however, and there were reasons for this. It would be easier to set the tone for the entire trip in Seoul. In the other nations, which are also Washington's allies, Weinberger would obviously have to demonstrate the need for their further involvement in the aggressive, militaristic strategy of the USA. South Korea in another matter. It is not necessary to prove anything to its rulers. They are prepared to support at once any adventuristic scheme of Washington.

That is what happened this time as well. After making the stock statements about a "loyal friend and devoted ally," Weinberger hurried off to the regular American-South Korean "security conference." At the conference, the Japanese newspaper NIHON KEIZAI reported, a plan was approved for the deployment of a new generation of chemical weapons, binary weapons, in the southern part of the Korean Peninsula. We would point out that not a single NATO ally of the USA has yet given official consent to the deployment of these monstrous weapons of mass destruction. Seoul, however, agreed without delay.

Today, when the infamous doctrine of "neoglobalism," which justifies the USA's armed intervention in the affairs of the developing nations, is in effect in the American capital, it would be appropriate to recall that the Korean people were one of the first victims of this policy almost 36 years ago. The strategy was

called something else at that time, to be sure: "repelling communism." Even then, however, it was a cover for brazen imperialist plundering and an attempt to impose the USA's will upon other peoples by military force, just as it is today. As a result, at a time when a new life was being built in the northern part of the peninsula, its south was being turned, in the words of American politicians, "into a dagger which could reach any part of Asia," into "a forward line of defense," or more simply stated, into a staging area for the Pentagon's adventures on the continent.

During all of these years the USA has systematically militarized the southern part of the Korean Peninsula. A ramified system of American bases and military installations has been created there. A 40,000-man military contingent is located there, and around 1,000 units of nuclear ammunition are deployed there. As it conducted all of these aggressive preparations, Washington, as it is wont to do, was completely ignoring the will of the Korean people. This is why a dictatorial regime was the most suitable form of government for the USA. American satraps merely replaced one another: Syngman Rhee and Park Chung Hee. Chun Doo Hwan, the current "president" of South Korea, just like his predecessors, is prepared to close his eyes, so to speak, and approve any scheme of the Pentagon.

Washington's aggressive course on the Korean Peninsula is countered by the consistent and constructive policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It has advanced a comprehensive plan for lessening tensions. The DPRK proposes that the Korean Peninsula be turned into a nuclear-free zone, that the cease-fire agreement be replaced with a peace treaty and that a dialog be developed between North and South with the ultimate goal of Korea's peaceful, democratic reunification. In order to create conditions conducive to such a dialog, the DPRK announced that as of 1 February it would bilaterally halt all large-scale military maneuvers and proposed that Washington and Seoul do the same. It is perfectly obvious that these actions are in the interest of the entire Korean people.

They are certainly not in the interest of the Pentagon, however. The American Defense Department realizes, after all, that the implementation of this program would raise the issue of removing American forces. It therefore considers intensification of confrontation to be the only possible way. The DPRK announced that it was abandoning large-scale maneuvers: this did not prevent the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff from calling it a "factor of instability on the peninsula" in its report to Congress. Are the American forces and the 600,000-man army of the Seoul regime a factor of stability then? And how are they stabilizing the situation?

Very simply: by launching large-scale maneuvers, "Team Spirit-86," on 10 February. Almost 210,000 servicemen took part in them. To supplement the American forces permanently stationed in South Korea, large forces from formations of the Rapid Deployment Force were transferred there: the 3rd Marine Division and the 7th and 25th Infantry Divisions. Large air formations and a powerful naval grouping were also sent to South Korea.

The American headquarters keep repeating that the "Team Spirit" maneuvers are of a purely "peaceful" and "defensive" nature and threaten no one's security. New packaging for an old story, but difficult to believe. How could we forget the "peaceful" maneuvers of the 6th Fleet near the Libyan coast, which turned into a criminal, bloody provocation?!

The facts show that the military demonstrations which have been occurring near the borders of the DPRK for 2 months now are of the same "peaceful" nature. According to the foreign press, the general scenario for these maneuvers includes a good dozen offensive operations. Here are three of them, the largest. During air exercises dozens of combat aircraft, including F-16 fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons, took to the skies. And several times all of them simulated a massive air attack in the direction of the DPRK. Quite recently the world observed the same sort of operations in the Mediterranean. During naval maneuvers the naval forces practiced inflicting "deep damage to enemy territory from the sea." Finally, the culmination of "Team Spirit-86": 12,000 Marines with the support of ships and aircraft stormed the South Korean coast near the city of Pohang. And once again, this was a challenge: in the opinion of observers, the topography of the landing area is similar to the coast of the DPRK. We are entitled to ask: If "Team Spirit" is not a provocation, then what are we to call a provocation?

We would point out also that the American-South Korean maneuvers are a multipurpose provocation. By conducting them, the Pentagon people are hoping to make dialog between the North and South as difficult as possible or to frustrate such dialog and additionally to intimidate the DPRK. Nor can we fail to see that "Team Spirit-86," during which so-called "preventive" nuclear strikes were practiced, is a provocation not just against the DPRK. The scenario is being worked out for a "limited nuclear war" in Asia in general.

A program of "Team Spirit" maneuvers to the year 1988 was approved at meetings held in Seoul with Weinberger's participation. It is perfectly apparent that the Pentagon is counting on heating up the situation in the region even more by means of such militaristic actions. By exacerbating regional conflicts, Washington intends to achieve the retention and expansion of the American military presence in Southeast Asia.

The United States is giving military assistance to bands of Khmer reaction. This rabble, in which Pol Pot followers play first violin, operates in the area of the Thai-Cambodian border, provoking tensions there. And this is precisely what Washington needs. It is of course playing on a nonexistent "Vietnamese threat" in an attempt to intimidate Thailand and the other ASEAN nations.

The result, the foreign press reports, is that Washington has already obtained from Bangkok permission to establish strategic stockpiles of nuclear weapons and military equipment in Thailand. The Japanese ASAHI writes that American military "experts" are selecting the sites for them in the northern suburbs of Bangkok. The Thai public regards the establishment of these depots as the next step toward reestablishment of the American military presence in the nation. The newspaper BANGKOK POST states that the construction of strategic depots for the Rapid Deployment Force is a direct path toward a dangerous flareup of tensions in Southeast Asia. The newspaper believes that implementation of the Pentagon plans will only result in additional aggravation of regional conflicts.

We can see that the Pentagon is assigning the role of its military staging areas to South Korea and Thailand, as well as the Philippines, where Weinberger will try to gain from the nation's new leaders guarantees that the American bases will be retained. The "neoglobalists" are assigning Japan a different task: the Pentagon sees in it a direct participant in its future military adventures in Asia. There was a reason why Weinberger, upon arriving in that nation, inspected Japanese

formations deployed on the northernmost island of Hokkaido near the border with the USSR. An exercise by the 7th Infantry Division was specially arranged for the distinguished guest. It involved an operation to "penetrate an enemy's defense." And the Japanese armed forces are still called "self-defense forces"!

When Weinberger left on the trip, a Pentagon representative stated that during the consultations with allies the main attention would be given to "fundamental security issues." We can see that in fact this "attention" is leading to the intensification of tensions in the Asian-Pacific Ocean region and to new crises.

The forces of imperialism, particularly American, are resorting to everything possible--economic sabotage, political provocations, pressure in the form of direct force," M.S. Gorbachev stressed in an interview for the Algerian magazine REVOLUTION AFRICAINE, "in order to crush and destroy the liberated nations and halt the course of history."

Washington's actions in various regions of Asia confirm this conclusion. If not for American intervention in the internal affairs of other nations, the regional conflicts would begin to subside and could be resolved far more easily and justly.

There is no question that the Asian-Pacific Ocean region has many tangled knots of conflict and that the political situation in individual regions is unstable. However, all of this requires an immediate search for political solutions and not attempts to derive strategic military benefits from the troubles of others. It is the opinion of the USSR that we should begin by coordinating and then uniting the efforts of all nations on the continent in the interest of achieving a political settlement of painful problems. The acuteness of the military confrontation in various regions of Asia could simultaneously be eliminated on this basis.

Implementation of Mongolia's proposal for the concluding of a convention of mutual nonaggression and nonemployment of force by nations of the Asian-Pacific Ocean region and of the same proposals by the DPRK mentioned above could make a perceptible contribution to a general Asian security concept. There could be a positive role for peace initiatives by the nations of Indochina to weaken the confrontation in Southeast Asia and turn the region into a zone of peace and co-operation. There is growing understanding in Asia today that precisely this path will lead to security on the continent.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

EXERCISES OFF LIBYA WERE TO PROVOKE 'LOW INTENSITY CONFLICT'

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Mar 86 p 3

[Article by Lt Col Yu. Soldatenko under the rubric "International Notes": "Piracy in the Guise of Exercises"]

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger and Admiral Crowe, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, held a briefing at the Pentagon on the just completed exercises of the U.S. 6th Fleet near the coast of Libya. During the exercises the American used weapons against naval targets five times, as a result of which two Libyan patrol boats were sunk and three others were damaged. With insolent smugness leaders of the U.S. Defense Department assessed this act of banditry against a sovereign nation pursuing an anti-imperialist, independent course in the international arena as "very successful in all respects."

Underscoring the fact that three aircraft carriers and 27 other combat ships had operated constantly for a period of 75 hours in the Gulf of Sidra and that aircraft had made 1,546 sortees during that time, Weinberger and Crowe boasted that "the exercises demonstrated... the USA's right to operate in international waters." They stated that during the past 7 years the USA has carried out such "demonstrations" in the waters of 35 nations, "including waters which the Soviet Union claims as its own."

The acts of banditry by the American military near the coast of Libya and the violation of the State Border of the USSR by U.S. ships in the Black Sea are integral parts of a single plan coordinated in Washington for provoking so-called "low-intensity conflicts."

Such actions by the Pentagon are a clear demonstration of the imperial ambitions of militaristic circles in the USA, who are striving for practical implementation of the infamous concept of "neoglobalism." The "Committee of 208," which consists of highly placed officials in the CIA, the State Department, the Pentagon and other organizations, was set up in the United States for precisely this purpose. Its job is to plan and work out various types of provocations, including military provocations, for purposes of achieving the global military-political objectives of the USA in the developing nations and undermining the Soviet Union's international prestige. The activities of the "Committee of 208" were demonstrated most clearly precisely in the punitive action by the USA in the Gulf of Sidra.

Essentially, as Weinberger's statement indicates, the Gulf of Sidra was used by the American fleet as a range for practicing combat missions "in a situation of modern combat and the testing of new weapons, HARM and Harpoon missiles."

The provocation by the United States against Libya failed, as we know. It did not succeed in bringing the Libyan people to their knees or forcing the government of that nation to submit to the American diktat. The entire world received with rage and indignation news of the USA's piratical attack on independent Libya. This aggressive act was an open expression of its policy of state terrorism, the ignoring of the UN Charter and an attempt to impose its will upon other peoples by force of arms and to destabilize the situation in states which have taken the path of independent development.

Ignoring protests by the world community, U.S. military leaders stressed the fact that the American fleet would continue to conduct exercises in international waters "at its discretion." They also made it clear that they were not ruling out a repeat of the punitive action against Libya.

It is obvious that the American Administration, ignoring the realities of today, is continuing to trust in force and the impunity of its actions, which conflict with generally accepted standards of international relations. This dangerous illusion carries a threat to universal peace. Remember, even the U.S. President once acknowledged that regional conflicts carry the "seeds of larger wars."

There is absolutely no question that the USA's provocations against Libya and in other areas of the planet are a threat to international peace and security. The Soviet Union's recent proposal on turning the Mediterranean into a zone of stable peace and cooperation met with a broad response throughout the world. However, when Weinberger was asked at a briefing how he assesses the March 26 1986 proposal by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on the reciprocal removal of Soviet and American ships from the Mediterranean, the Pentagon leader brazenly stated: "considering the balance of naval forces of the two nations"-- four combat ships for the USSR and more than 45 for the USA--"in the region, this proposal, like many other proposals of the USSR, seems somewhat unbalanced." One has to ask for what purpose such an armada of American ships is located thousands of miles from the shores of the USA.

Numerous recent incidents have provided convincing evidence that the USA counts mainly on force for resolving all international issues. By putting weapons into play against sovereign Libya, American imperialism has once again clearly exposed the imperial, plunderous cast of its neoglobal policy.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

KUZAR ON BRITISH MILITARY 'AMBITIONS'

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Apr 86 p 3

[Article by Capt 3rd Rank V. Kuzar under the rubric "Imperialism, Generator of Aggression and Adventurism": "Clinging to Uncle Sam's Coattails: Commentary by a Military Observer"]

[Text] ...Official London rejoiced. At the instructions of the authorities bands played "Rule, Britannia!" and other marches and anthems without letup on the squares and avenues. Newspapers close to government circles abounded in jingoistic headlines: "Our Role in World Affairs is Restored," "Great Britain Has Demonstrated That it Is Truly Great".... The "heroes"--ministers, generals, admirals and the obedient executors of their will, the British "tommies"--smiled radiantly from television screens. Reveling in the "enthralling victory," "the most brilliant military operation of modern times," the Tories were celebrating the end of the fighting for the Falklands (Malvinas)....

Today, after the passage of 4 years, one can state with complete justification that precisely that day marked the beginning of a new phase in the policy of the British Conservatives, an imperial policy aimed at restoring Britain's former greatness and increasing England's role outside the NATO sphere of activity.

Just what have the Tories gained by directing the nation along a "neoimperialist course"? What sort of place is Britain today? We shall answer these questions with the words of Oxford University Professor of Modern History M. Howard. Describing the nation's present situation, he stated: "The wave of glory carrying us is receding, leaving on the shore pitiful, odd fragments enveloped in genius and disintegration."

There is nothing surprising about such a devastating assessment of the results of the Conservatives' antinational policy. In the pursuit of its cherished goal, the Tory Government has turned to extensive militarization of the nation and a drastic increase in military expenditures. They are growing at an annual rate of 3.8 percent, which is more even than the "recommendation" in NATO. Britain has firmly established itself in second place among the nations in the North Atlantic bloc, following the USA, with respect to the size of its military budget. This year it was increased to 18.060 billion pounds sterling. This had an immediate effect upon the state of the economy. In the book "Paying for Defense: Military Outlays and Britain's Decline," M. Chalmers writes that "attempts to restore the nation's international political status are leading to an accelerating economic

decline.... Large military outlays are responsible for the fact that Britain is lagging further and further behind its main economic competitors."

Nonetheless, the Tory Government continues to build up its militaristic efforts, cynically recommending that millions of British unemployed, homeless and hungry "eat less." Military programs are being implemented one after the other, devouring enormous funds. Under the "Shevalin" program, all British PLARB [ballistic missile submarines] were outfitted with missiles with a new warhead, designated the Polaris-AZTK, in 1985. These missiles carry six independently targeted warheads with a power of 40 kilotons each. Next, the submarine fleet is to be outfitted with the American Trident nuclear missile system, which will increase Great Britain's nuclear capability to 1,088 warheads.

The imperial ambitions of the Tory leaders have prevented them from soberly assessing the Soviet program for eliminating nuclear weapons from the planet. We know that it takes into account London's previously oft-repeated statement that it is prepared to join in a process of nuclear disarmament after the USSR and the USA have considerably reduced their nuclear capabilities. This stated "preparedness" has not passed the practical test, however. Officials of Great Britain have announced that the government does not approve of any plan which calls for the freezing of the program for building up British nuclear weapons. Furthermore, in their opinion nuclear weapons "will be essential in the foreseeable future as a mutual restraint 'factor'." This was recently stated by Prime Minister M. Thatcher, for example, who, it turns out, "cannot imagine peace without nuclear weapons." London has also responded negatively to the Soviet Union's proposal for halting nuclear tests.

The facts show that the British Conservatives intend to back up their policy in the world arena with military actions. A joint forces staff and a group for planning and directing operations outside of NATO have been set up in the army. There are also forces patterned after the interventionist American Rapid Deployment Force. They consist primarily of the 5th Army Airborne Brigade and the 3rd Airborne Marine Brigade, other units and subunits. The personnel in these formations, in the words of General Hawlett, do not have an easy time of it, particularly in Northern Ireland, where the soldiers, he says, "must be capable of withstanding insults and attacks for months on end." The general said not a word about the missions being performed by these units in the northern colony, however. And they are absurdly simply: to ruthlessly suppress the popular will.

The Tory leaders are counting on assistance from the USA for achieving their great-power objectives. This ally is accustomed to being paid, however. The Conservative Government has had to subordinate the nation's foreign policy to Washington's aggressive course and to show practically unconditional support for its militaristic preparations and piratical actions in the international arena. England opened the door for American medium-range nuclear missile systems to enter Western Europe by being the first to accept cruise missiles. The British leaders say this, not without pride, today. The fact is, however, that not only was the appearance of first-strike nuclear missiles on the continent the cause of the exacerbation of the situation on the planet, but it also turned the West European NATO nations, including Great Britain, into nuclear hostages of the Pentagon.

Great Britain was the first nation whose government announced its desire to take part in the American "Star Wars" plans. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed in December of last year, which officially established collaboration between the two nations in the militarization of space. And once again, Great Britain was the loser, since "big brother," who is counting on British financial and scientific assistance, does not intent to let its ally in on all of its secrets. The Western press reports that British firms participating in the implementation of the "Star Wars" program will be subjected to a thorough investigation, and their developments will be strictly classified. And so, Great Britain will receive no benefit from having a hand in the new technology, and precisely this is the main argument of the advocates of SDI. An obstacle will have been placed onto the path to peace, however.

England is frequently referred to as the USA's "unsinkable aircraft carrier." And these are not merely words or some sort of artistic image. A total of 165 American military facilities--nuclear weapons storage facilities, air, naval and missile bases and numerous spy centers--are located on British territory today. It should also be pointed out that the Pentagon has practically absolute control over its bases, the custody of the weapons deployed there, including the cruise missiles, and in the final analysis, over the decision to employ them. Furthermore, the magazine NEW STATESMAN states, emergency laws have been worked out to ensure the unhindered functioning of the American forces. They are based on a number of secret plans for "emergency situations." One of them is a "joint logistical support plan." It provides for placing all of Great Britain's military and nonmilitary resources at the Pentagon's disposal. In reality, this means that the nation's sovereignty has essentially been reduced to naught.

The Tory leaders' desire to climb to the pinnacle "of world power" by hanging onto Uncle Sam's coattails is also contributing to the further penetration of American capital into the British economy. Actions by the Conservative Cabinet which transferred control over the Westland Helicopter Company to Sikorsky Aircraft was received in Britain as a betrayal of national interests. And now something similar is threatening a number of key enterprises of the state motor vehicle company, Leland. If this occurs, in the opinion of Laborite MP J. Smith, the very concept of a "national automobile industry" will have to be forgotten.

The passion of jingoism, that mixture of unthinking chauvinism, imperial militancy and a climate of feasting during a plague evoked by the intervention in the Falklands, has long since passed among the British. Today, they are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that the great-power course along which the Tories are leading, kowtowing before the White House, is taking Great Britain down a dead-end street toward new troubles and burdens. Broad segments of the British public are demanding that Britain break with Washington's aggressive policy, that it "stop standing on its hind legs before Washington," as D. Healy, one of the opposition leaders, graphically expressed it, and build its relations with other nations on a foundation of mutual cooperation and equal security. This is also an urgent demand of the current dangerous and tense stage of world development.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

USSR RADIO COMMENTS ON 'RIMPAC-86' EXERCISE

LDO91227 Moscow World Service in English 1431 GMT 8 May 86

[Viktor Nikolayev Commentary]

[Excerpts] In late April, Japanese missile-carrying destroyers left their base at Sasebo to take in a large-scale exercises [as heard], "Rimpac-86." Viktor Nikolayev comments:

Rimpac means naval maneuvers conducted by the United States and its allies once every 2 years since 1970 in the heart of the Pacific, in the region of the Hawaiian Islands. Until 1978, the war games involved two countries, the United States and Canada located in the northeast of the ocean, and two countries located in its southwest, Australia and New Zealand. They are usually monitored by the headquarters of the 3d United States Fleet in Honolulu. Japan took part in these maneuvers for the first time in 1980, when it dispatched to the Hawaiian Island area 2 destroyers, 8 antisubmarines planes and 700 servicemen from its self defense forces. It's noteworthy that the country's democratic public and opposition parties qualify the participation of self defense forces in Rimpac as a gross violation of the legislative veto on the dispatch of Japanese troops abroad. Indeed, the term self-defense can hardly be applied to maneuvers conducted thousands of miles away from the Japanese coast. There are 6,300 km between Tokyo and Honolulu. This more than doubles the distance of 1,000 nautical miles from the Japanese coast whose patrolling the government in Tokyo is inclined to undertake. Nevertheless, Japan's ruling circles remained deaf to public objections and persisted in expanding their participation in the Rimpac maneuvers. This year, Japan's navy will be represented in the exercises by a whole squadron: eight warships with antisubmarine helicopters on board plus eight antisubmarine patrol planes of the P-3C type. A Japanese submarine is to take part in these exercises for the first time.

Britain's naval ships will be involved in "Rimpac-86" for the first time ever, to replace those of New Zealand which failed to be invited because of its categorical refusal to let nuclear-armed U.S. ships call at New Zealand's ports. This is very indicative because nowadays Britain, from whose airfields American bombers launched piratical raids on peaceful Libyan cities recently, display 100 percent loyalty to all American aggressive plans including those relating to the Pacific area.

The British squadron, which played a disgraceful role of aggressor in 1982 during the military conflict with Argentina over the Falklands, will now act together with the Japanese flotilla and American naval units as the blue forces. It will direct the operations to be launched by landing parties to liberate the Pacific islands allegedly captured by the Reds. "Rimpac-86" also envisages torpedo and missile strikes on enemy submarines and surface ships and on air targets. These are tasks that have nothing to do with the declared goals of self-defense.

"Rimpac-86" is an extension of the provocative "Team-Spirit" war games conducted in proximity to Soviet borders. [passage omitted on Japanese press criticism of exercises]

The involvement of Britain in the exercises and greater participation of Japan are fraught with danger because this signifies another step on the path of turning the United States-Japanese alliance into a military bloc of the NATO type.

The Soviet Union sets off against the continuing flexing of military muscle which aggravates tensions in the Pacific area its steady and persistent efforts aimed at finding constructive solutions to the problems of security in the region.

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AFGHANISTAN

MOSCOW TV SHOW MARKS FOUNDING OF DRA YOUTH GROUP

LD251846 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1510 GMT on 23 April 1986 within the "World and Youth" program presents a 35-minute report by special correspondent Anatoliy Lysenko entitled "With a Rifle and a Primer." The show is devoted to the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan (DYOA).

The report opens with film of a ceremony to see off new recruits from the DYOA as volunteer soldiers, showing young people and children chanting to the recruits. Lkysenko interviews one of three of them, speaking in Russian, on their joining the army to fulfill their duty to their homeland and defend the revolution against the forces of reaction. The new soldiers are seen leaving the ceremony in a truck, cheering.

The next section of the program, entitled "We Trust Him," features Charokh Shokh, the country's youngest chairman of a district committee. Seen at a plenum of the DYOA Central Committee, and speaking to the correspondent in an exhibition hall, the voice-over explains that he is speaking about life in the district, tribal sub-divisions and the young men defending the border, about the great deal to be done and how little skills and strength they have. Charokh is 21 years old.

Lysenko explains that several days later he went to Charokh's district of Mendrawol, where Shinwari tribes live. Video shows view of a village across an agricultural valley, a hilltop lookout point and a review of the tribal regiment in the village. Just a few kilometers from here, in Pakistan, government troops are bombing villages. Virtually the entire male population are in the regiment: they work carrying their weapons, go on patrol and guard the crossroads and fords. Makhmat Khan, the head of the tribe, is said to be telling the correspondent that refugees from Pakistan can be expected here soon. The camera pans around the faces of the young and old in the regiment, while the voice-over speaks of their determination not to allow an enemy to pass through their territory; most are seen carrying rifles. They then perform a folk dance for the "first Soviet people to come here to the village." Children applaud. Charokh is present; in his home village of (?Chir-oga), Charokh is seen addressing all the men, gathered to hear his account of his trip to Kabul about the plans of the Central Committee; he listens to their counsel. Lysenko explains how Charokh was recalled by the local people from studying at university in Kabul and asked to take the post of chairman, a singular honor in Afghanistan, where only old men have the right to vote.

He interviews several of the elders gathered in the square, who praise their chairman's abilities. In an interview Charokh outlines the tasks ahead: building local amenities, eradicating illiteracy and helping local people with food supplies.

The next section of the film is entitled "Festival Delegate" and is a profile of a company commander in a commandos brigade with 7 years battle experience, with a break only for the Moscow Youth Festival, to which he was a delegate. He is seen in camouflage uniform outdoors speaking through an interpreter to Lysenko, recalling his impressions of the festival. Asked what battle has been the most difficult for him, he replies that the next battle is always the worst for any soldier, but he is not afraid and is honored to defend the April revolution. "The operations in Khos and Herat were difficult; the Dushmans are generously armed, but right is on our side, so we are the stronger. We never waste a minute, this is probably why we are always ready." Video shows him and several other soldiers in an exercise firing on and then approaching to take a ruined building in a deserted valley. The company commander is shown addressing the company on the exercise site.

Lysenko continues: "As they say, when the exercises are hard, the battle will be easy. We were not able to continue our conversation with them -- called to alert, the assault troops went on an operation. In several days, we saw them in battle." Video shows two soldiers lying on a ridge in firing position facing the side of a valley. There is rapid firing on the sound track, but the soldiers do not seem to be firing, and no enemy is to be seen on the hillside.

In the next pictures some firing can be seen, and a tank moves along the valley, firing up at the hillside. Afghan soldiers then move in on the hillside, as shown formerly in the exercise. Lysenko mentions that the company commander being featured was given another government decoration for this operation.

The next section of the film is captioned "Students," and looks at the work of Kabul students, helping in the Kabul bakery, responding to the DYOA call for their labor. The girls are shown rolling out bread. Amina Randzhbor, a high school student, discusses the DYOA's contribution to the country's economic development. She says: "The enemies have more than once tried to destroy the bakery, but the workers defended it. It is a particular honor for us to work in such a collective, and we try to justify it." She presents Lysenko with a couple of pieces of bread.

The next section, called "All Depends on Us," features a photographic worker on the youth newspaper DARAFLSH-E JAWANAN, Mohammad Nabi, who is seen at work in the printing department and with his wife in Kabul market and at home. The video shows them and their baby walking along a street wet with stalls selling a cooked dish and, mainly, oranges. There are only Afghan people in the market, many of whom look with interest at the camera.

Nabi's family lives in a communal apartment; their two rooms in a large apartment with many inhabitants is not bad for Kabul conditions, the voice-

over says. Nabi recalls how he was wounded fighting in Konar Province and the letters he wrote to his new wife about nature, so as not to worry her; he says that every family would like to live better, to have their own apartments and to earn a bit more, but the means do not yet exist for this, as the undeclared war swallows it up. All depends on us and our work, he says. His wife recalls how poor life was for women formerly. "There are, of course, many difficulties, but we have already achieved a lot. All depends on us, only on us."

The next section opens with film of Lysenko at night listening to the muezzin calling the faithful to prayer. Lysenko says: "The voice of the muezzin, calling faithful muslims to perform the first of the five obligatory prayers, rings out over a still sleeping Kabul. In a country where the overwhelming part of the population consists of people with deep beliefs, the problem of the relationship between state and religion, between the revolution and religion, is incredibly complicated, responsible and difficult. Precisely because of this is such attention paid to it both in the People's Democratic Party and in the Democratic youth Organization in Afghanistan. The decision of the 16th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee on expanding the social base of the revolution is to a considerable extent connected with work among the believers, with bringing the clergy over to the side of the revolution. This is complicated, it is difficult, and at times its form is somewhat unexpected. The voice of the muezzin rings out over sleeping Kabul, calling the believers to perform the first, morning prayers."

As video moves to an overhead shot of men writing exam papers in an open-air courtyard, Lysenko says: "At the religious college, the Abu Hanif Higher Seminary, there were exams that day. And, as usual when exams are in progress, those who have to answer are eager to be filmed. The seminary trains theological teachers.

Many graduates will go away to study at the university. There is also a primary organization of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan at the seminary."

As video cuts to a group of men in khaki sitting on the ground being lectured by a man in uniform, standing in front of a board with pictures on it, Lysenko continues: "We became acquainted with Mullah Amin Gul, a graduate of this seminary, several days later at an army unit, where he is serving as an army priest. He was talking to recruits.

"(Lysenko) Mullah Amin, you have taken part in combat questions, and after them you have often met the local population. What questions does the local population ask, and what do you say to them?

"(Amin) When I meet the population, the first question is, 'Is it true that they hate Islam in Kabul?' This is the result of the poison that the enemies of our people, disguised as defenders of Islam, pour into people's hearts. I explain to them the policy of the party on religion, and I conduct religious ceremonies. It is probably strange for you to see a priest of religion here, but among us there are very many believers -- the revolution brings happiness."

The next section of the film, "Alert," opens with pictures of a radio operator in an office and soldiers receiving a radio message, then soldiers rushing to their troop carriers and APC's, setting off along a deserted, dusty road. Lusenko speaks to camera in the back of a truck, the road behind and ahead of him visible, past a gun. Other trucks are seen on side roads.

After a voice-over -- "Once again, an alert prevents us from continuing our conversation. Alert. How often that word is to be heard in reports from Afghanistan." -- Lysenko continues: "Called out on alert, one of the units of the Afghan border troops is on its way to the border. It is 5 to 6 kilometers to it. An alert is an everyday thing in the life of these men, who must ensure the security of the state border. For the majority of them this is not the first time on a combat operation: many of them already have dozens, of some hundreds, such stories to their combat credit. Not for nothing have they been decorated with orders and medals of Afghanistan. The unknown lies ahead: this could be a small group, it could be a large sub-unit, there could be a battle ahead.

"When you go out on an operation in a convoy, you perceive the nature around you very differently: magnificent walls surrounding a house, a garden, the banks, you perceive as an ambush site. Hills -- there could be a grenade launcher there; an unexpected and very beautiful bend in the road is an excellent place for an ambush. Even the dust and the road -- thousands of eyes, hundreds of eyes watch it attentively because there could be a very big surprise waiting there -- mines." The truck passes a convoy stopped at the roadside, consisting of two unloaded dump trucks and five armored cars with soldiers sitting on top of them. The last truck bears a red flag on its hood. There are hills in the distance and, immediately ahead, a river ford. As Lysenko's truck is waved down by a soldier with two red flags, about 20 soldiers can be seen between him and the ford, all watching the ford and hills beyond. The camera gets down the truck, Lysenko noting that the ford and the approach to it could be mined. As the camera moves ahead to film the soldiers as they begin to approach the ford, checking the ground ahead with sticks and mine detectors, voice-over comments! "Step by step, centimeter by centimeter, the sappers sounded out the road. Should it become necessary, they are always ready to put up covering fire; but nevertheless, the work of the sapper is probably the most dangerous and the most tense. And time won't wait, time flies. Ahead, a band has reached the posts, ahead there is a battle under way.

"The heavy blows of the explosions shook the ground. We got away without casualties. The ruse did not work. And now, faster ahead, faster ahead, help will come in time." (video closing this section shows convoy proceeding along road on the other side of the ford.)

The next section of the film is entitled "I undertake." As video shows 2-story building with gun posts on roof at both front corners; young people armed with rifles; and a leader giving instructions to the group, Lysenko continues: "the building of the district DYOA committee. The posts on the roof are not for romance. More than once the enemy has tried to attack, and every time was forced back.

"Social order brigades, a unit of the DYOA: a peasant, a school student, a student -- they patrol the streets and roads, make checks, and sometimes do battle."

"The little streets are peaceful and quiet; it would seem that the armed patrol is a tribute to the boyhood attraction to weapons, to romanticism. It would seem."

"Several days ago there was a fierce battle here. A group of Dushmans came to the village; they came along this underground passage -- it comes out a long way from the village, (?on the step). So they came along this underground passage and set up an ambush in the house, in order to kill one of the peasants, who had left a Dushman band and come over to the side of the revolution. A group of defenders of the revolution, including young men from the social order brigade, discovered the appearance of the Dushmans, and attacked. You can see bullet marks, for this house was a kind of fortress, and you can't take it easily. Knowing that there was nowhere for them to go to, the Dushmans shot it out to the last."

Lysenko then shows viewers some DYOA members practicing on the firing range, outside the village, where a schoolgirl is shown shooting well. Each in the group appears to have their own rifle. The girl says she learned to shoot so well by never missing practice. She takes as her model the Soviet girls who fought during the Great Patriotic war. Asked if he is afraid when alone or in a pair at a watch point, when the enemy might be close, a boy says they are not afraid to defend the land of their fathers and the revolution. A third, the youngest boy in the team, says his rifle is not too heavy for him, it is a good weapon; perhaps an automatic rifle would be better, but what matters is that one has taken up arms.

The closing sequence of the film is an interview conducted by Lysenko with Babrak Karmal. The video shows Karmal sitting at a low table facing camera, with unidentified persons on either side and Lysenko to right, asking the questions.

"(Lysenko) The party and government pay continual attention to the activity of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan. We have taken the opportunity of one of the meetings of comrade Fafid Mazdak, first secretary of the DYOA Central Committee, with Comrade Babrak Karmal, the leader of the party and state, in order to ask him -- as the founder of the youth movement of Afghanistan -- to reply to the questions of the 'World and Youth Program.'

"Comrade Karmal, how do you assess the role and situation of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan today, in carrying out the tasks set by the April Revolution?"

"(Karmal) (in vernacular with translation overlaid) From the moment of its foundation, the party has always paid and pays great attention to work with young people. At the decision of the PDPA Central Committee, 10 years ago the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan was founded -- the vanguard of revolutionary youth, an organization that has joined the glorious pages of the history of the revolutionary movement of our country. Following the

victory of the April revolution, the role of young people and their vanguard has been growing day by day in all spheres of the country's life in our society. The DYOA operates under the guidance of the party. We see this guidance not as administration, but as persuasion by living example, as Vladimir Ilich Lenin taught us to work with young people. His behest, to study, study and study is also addressed to our young people.

"Today, the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan is a reserve and a loyal assistant to the party, everywhere -- in the factories, in industry, transport, in the fields, in the mines, members of the DYOA are working excellently. And at the same time they, dressed in the uniform of the soldier, stand up and defend the homeland from the plots of the enemies of the revolution, defend their happy future, the happy future of our homeland. With a rifle over their shoulders, with a primer, with hammer and sickle, they are always out in front, in the struggle for the happiness of the people."

The film closes with stills of the various Afghans who have appeared in the film, and a panning shot along a mountain valley, looking across to a village.

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